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aristians, Mus^{if} ırn condoms AIROBI (AFP) iristian and Me ergymen in Keny e to sex educid oks. condoms ier contraceptive monstrate ,position vernment plan

roduce sex

wspapers

schools.

Arab League assails Israel over Aqsa

CAIRO (AP) - The Arab League, marking the anniversary of an arson attack on Al Aqua Mosque in Jerusalem, on Monday accused Israel of continuing aggression against the shrine. "The crime of the burning of the Al Aqua Mosque... was carried out by Israeli occupation forces," a legane statement and It added the action of the Al-Aqua Mosque... "bracel is continuing to aggressive policies against Al Aqua Mosque, and it; attempt to destroy it with the hands of Israeli terrarism and extremism is continuing." The league statement was especially critical of Israel's decision to dip a tunnel near the dewal gaired care superin ad: test to coal wolle or area halidays. Al Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third holiest shrine after Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia, was severely damaged in an arson attack in 1969. It has since been largely restored. Muslims have lone blamed freact for the arson. But Israel claimed it was the work of a deranged Christian, who was detained and later

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Volume 19 Number 6000

AMMAN TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1995, RABI' AWAL 25, 1416

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Suicide blast kills four in Jerusalem

Hamas claims responsibility for bomb attack believed to have been carried out by woman

Combined agency dispatches

A SUICIDE BOMBER, beheved to be a woman from the Hamas movement, killed four people and wounded 100 in a morning rush hour bus attack in Jerusalem on Mon-

A Palestinian radio and an anonymous caller to Israel Radio said Hamas, which opposes the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, carried out the attack. There was no official confirmation

Police said the body of an unidentified woman was found on the bus. Previous bombers have been male and security screening has fo-

cused on young single men. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin put on hold peace talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which condemned the bombing. Both sides said they were determined to sign an agreement on extending Palestinian self-rule to the West Bank on schedule in Washington next month.

"It was a difficult and painful day but we are determined to fight Hamas and Islamic Jihad terror and to continue building peace with Palestinians who want peace with us," Mr. Rabin told reporters. He said talks would resume after the funer-

In a leaflet broadcast by the Syrian-based "Al Quds" Radio, the military wing of Hamas claimed responsibility for the bombing and one carried out in Tel Aviv on July 24 in which six people

were killed. The government of the Zionist enemy will pay the price of the general war de-clared against Islam and Muslims," said the leaflet, referring to the crackdown on

attacks. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat denounced the bombing "strongly and completeand called Mr. Rabin to express his condolences.

Hamus by Israel and PLO

that followed earlier suicide

The blast exploded in the back of a No. 26 bus in the northern Jerusalem neighbourhood of Ramat Eshkol at 7:55 a.m., as it passed another bus. The explosion set fire to the second bus and blew out its windows. Passengers on both buses were among the wounded.

Ronen Shmuel, driver of the No. 26 bus, said most of his passengers were students travelling to Hebrew University's Mt. Scopus campus. Some were foreign students attending summer Hebrew language classes.

ľudy Shulewitz, a 19-yearold Cornell University student from Philadelphia, said she was standing next to the back door of the bus when the bomb went off. She was cut by glass on her face. hands and knees.

"Suddenly there was an explosion," she said. "I felt very hot and I landed on the

(Continued on page 7)

Baghdad media denounce U.S. efforts to isolate Iraq

The Water of the Control of the Cont

Party paper pays tribute to ties with Jordan

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq on Monday scoffed at U.S. efforts to isolate it from Jordan, its liffeline to the world since being placed

A general view of the site of an explosion in Jerusalem that killed at

least four people on Sunday AFP photo)

under economic sanctions. "U.S. efforts to sabotage our relations with Jordan are sterile and ridiculous and nobody can belive that Iraq has massed troops on the border" with Jordan, the official newspaper Al Thawra said.

Washington has offered to protect Jordan military after Amman granted asylum to senior Iraqi officials and is reportedly trying to persuade Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to replace Iraq as a source of oil

to Jordan (see page 12). At Al Thawra, which is run by the ruling Baath Party, also said U.S. reports of a possible threat to Jordan amid "potentially challenging" troop movements inside Iraq were "not credible."
"No Jordanian can believe

the newspaper said. adding Iraq would protect its long tradition of "brotherly and excellent relations" with Jordan.

"Iraq is always keen to develop its relations with Jordan because it is conscious that Washington wants to sow discord and sabotage inter-Arab relations," Al Thawra said,

Babel newspaper, run by President Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday, said the war waged against Iraq in 1991 was not enough for the Americans. Now they want to starve the Iraqi people." Bachdad has refrained from criticising Amman for giving asylum on August 10 to former Iraqi Industry Minister Hussein Kamel Has-

san, his brother and their two

U.S. peace plan for Bosnia

wives, both daughters of President Saddam Hussein. At the weekend the Iraqi authorities went still further.

"Iraq wants to preseve its relations with Jordan and hopes to develop and strengthen them to the greatest possible degree in all spheres," a government spokesman said Saturday after a cabinet meeting chaired by President Saddam to discuss Jordan. "Any cooperation by Jor-

dan with other brother Arab countries will not reduce Iraq's eagerness to strengthen its economic relations with Jordan," he added. Deputy Prime Minister

Tareq Aziz told CNN in a televised interview Friday: 'We still think of Jordan as a

(Continued on page 7)

you anything today, but I Gad Al Hag finds fault with Beijing conference

CAIRO (R) - A leading Muslim cleric on Monday criticised the upcoming U.N. Women's Conference in Beijing, saying it was the latest in a series of meetings aimed at undermining morality.
Gad Al Haq Ali Gad Al

Haq, grand sheikh of the respected Al Azhar religious centre, also had been critical of the U.N. Population Conference held in Cairo last

'The women's conference in Beijing... is a link in a chain that aims to devise a new mode of life which conflicts with religious ethics and shatters the limit of morality and deeply-rooted traditions," he said in a statement carried on Egypt's Middle East News Agency.

The U.N.-sponsored world conference on women is scheduled to start in the Chinese capital on Sept. 4. Nongovernment groups interested in women's issues are to begin meeting Aug. 30.

The draft of the platform to be debated at the conference - and which will be non-binding once adopted pledged to intensify efforts to achieve equality, development and peace and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.

Sheikh Gad Al Haq took issue with several proposals on sexuality, as he did with last year's Cairo conference. He said the wording appeared to encourage homosexuality.



The body of a woman hangs out of the window of the bus where a bomb exploded in Jerusalem on Sunday, killing at least four people (AFP photo)

Ekeus arrives for meeting with defector U.N. official sees Iraq moving away from threats

By Ayman Al Safadi

AMMAN — A top United Nations arms inspector arrived here on Monday to meet with a former fragi minister in an obvious bid to secure more information about Iraq's clandestine weapons programme, and compare data he had received from Iraqi officials in Baghdad with details he hoped to obtain here.

However, there was no immediate word when Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission for disarming Iraq, was to meet Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel Hassan, a son-in-law of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and former minister of industry who defected to Jordan Aug. 8.

In comments to reporters, Mr. Ekeus, a Swedish diplomat, indicated that the meeting could come on Tuesday and said he could explain why the encounter did not take place as originally scheduled

on Monday. "I will not be able to tell hope tomorrow I will be able to give you more information," he said. In Baghdad on Sunday,

Mr. Ekeus said he had received important details from Iraoi officials on the country's secret weapons programme. In Amman, he said the Iraqi government appeared to have moved away from threats and confrontation into cooperation with the United Nations.

Iraq "is going in the direc tion of cooperation with the (U.N.) Security Council... away from the type of threats (and) confrontations...," the U.N. official told reporters.

Mr. Ekeus said he had received close details of Iraq's secret biological weapons programme, including delivery systems -- artillery shells and missiles during his three-day stay in Baghdad.

The envoy, who arrived here after an overnight stopover in Bahrain from Baghdad, said a team of U.N. arms experts was to return to the Iraqi capital on Tuesday. In arrival comments, Mr. Ekeus described his latest

usual" in that the Iraqi government "provided me with a lot of information and details that they used to hide" from the U.N. Special Commis-Describing the Iraqi stand

mission to Baghdad as "un-

as "a new approach," he said Baghdad was taking "a step in the right direction towards cooperation" with the U.N. He told CNN television that Iraq had now admitted inai ii nad produced "agenis for biological warfare, which are, in a sense, terribly harm-

ful and awful to be exposed "I'm surprised at the size of the biological weapons programme" that Iraq managed to conceal from the U.N. inspectors until the defection of Gen. Hassan prompted it to disclose the

Gen. Hassan said in an interview with the Associated Press on Sunday that the Iraqi government had "revealed all secrets" to Mr. Ekeus and suggested that the U.N. envoy might not get any further information from

information, he said.

Mr. Ekeus held a round of talks with Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh shortly after his noon arrival in Amman.

Addressing the press afterwards, Mr. Rawabdeh said Jordan was not playing any role in arranging the meeting between Mr. Ekeus and and Gen. Hassan.

While the U.N. official's visit was indeed aimed at a meeting the Iraqi director, the lordanian was not involved in the matter, Mr. Rawabdeh stressed. No Jordanian official will attend the encounter either, he added.

Asked how Jordan can ensure that Gen. Hassan will not reveal any information that can harm frag's interests as Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker pledged to Par-liament, Mr. Rawabdeh said: 'Nobody will be in the meeting," pointing to Gen. Hassan's assertion at an Aug. 12 press conference that he will

Mr. Ekeus said he was not in contact with American

(Continued on page 7)

Defected Iraqi army major says uprising is imminent

The Associated Press

AMMAN (AP) — A former Iraqi army officer who defected earlier this month with President Saddam Hussein's two sons-in-law on Monday predicted that a popular uprising is imminent in Iraq.

Major Izzeddine Mohammed Hassan arrived here Aug. 8 with Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel Hassan and Colonel Saddam Kamel following a reported power struggle in the ruling

"A military coup and a popular revolution are coming." Maj. Izzeddine said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press, his first public comment.

"The Iraqis want to get rid of the regime. The whole world knows what is happening in Iraq... slaughter, executions, starvation.

Asked when he expected the revolt, he said: "This is in the hands of Allah."

The former army officer. who once headed President Saddam personal escort, accused the regime of squandering the country's massive oil wealth from wars and destruction.

Hussein Kamel, the brains behind Iraq's secret weapons programme, and Saddam

Kamel fled along with their wives - both daughters of President Saddam - as well as Mayor Izzeddine, his family and about 15 soldiers. Despite their history of

close involvement in the reg-

ime, the defectors have sought to portray themselves

as the new vanguard of the opposition. Maj. Izzeddine said the defectors had no plans to leave Jordan, where they were granted asylum by King Hus-

"We have all the security and we are not contemplating any departure from here," he

Hussein Kamel told the AP on Sunday that Iraq planned to invade Kuwait and Saudi Arabia this month. He claimed the plan was foiled by his defection and an American military build-up in the area.

The U.S. has reinforced its military presence in the Middle East to counter possible Iraqi threats against Kuwait following reports of unusual military movements in Iraq. Iraq has denied the American charges as a "hallucina-

An opposition source reported Monday that a repeat invasion of Kuwait was planned in case the U.N. Security Council refused to indicate a willingness by the end of August to lift its oil embargo of

Hamid Al Bayati, Londonbased spokesman for a Shiite faction in the Iraqi National Congress, said the invasion was to be overseen by Presi-

dent Saddam's son Uday. Before the defections, Iraq had set an Aug. 31 deadline after which it would stop cooperating with U.N. experts if the embargo, iminvasion of Kuwait, re-

On Sunday, U.N. chief weapons inspector Rolf Ekeus said in Baghdad that Iraq had a change of heart after the defection of Hussein Kamel. He quoted Iraqi De-puty Premier Tareq Aziz as calling the threat "an unfortunate statement.

"There was intention to invade Kuwait and Saudi Arabia." Maj. Izzeddine said, "We knew about it when we were in Baghdad. But now we do not think that the regime would carry out such action because American troops are in the region.

Maj. Izzeddine also said Uday shot and killed six women at a party on Aug. 7 and wounded the leader's half-brother, Watban Ibrahim Al Takriti, who had recently been fired as interior minister. He said a nephew of Watban and two more people

were injured. The shooting appeared to be part of a power struggle in Baghdad among family members and relatives of President Saddam.

But Babel, a newspaper run by Uday, reported on Aug. 10 that Wathan was shot accidentally during festive fire marking the anniversary of the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war.

On Sunday, state-run Iraqi Television carried an interview with Watban, his leg in plaster, in a hospital,

Algerian held in Paris blast

Crown Prince.

return home

Princess Sarvath

AMMAN (Petra) - Their

Royal Highnesses Crown

Prince Hassan and Princess

Surveth returned to Amman

Monday following a several-

day visit to Europe. They

were received at the airport

by His Majesty King Hus-

sein. Also present at the air-

port were Royal family mem-

bers, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Royal

Court Chief Marwan Al Oas-

sem and other officials in

addition to the charge d'af-

faires of the French and Ita-

lian embassies in Jordan. Re-

turning with the Prince and

Princess were Their Royal

Highnesses Prince Rashed

Ben Al Hassan and Princes-

ses Rahmeh and Badia Al

PARIS (AFP) — The judge investigating the July 25 bombing of a Paris commuter train has questioned a suspected Algerian fundamentalist who is said to have been spotted at the scene of the blast, reliable sources said Monday. Judge Jean-Francois Ricard questroned Abdul Karim Deneche in Sweden with the permission of Swedish authorities, the sources said. The sources said many news clippings of the July 25 blast at the Saint Michel station in the heart of the Latin Quarter were found at Mr. Deneche's home in Sweden. The attack left seven people dead and more than 80 wounded. (see page 12).

Rockets fired at Israeli-held zone

MARJAYOUN (AFP) -Hizbollah guerrillas on Monday fired Katyusha rockets at Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon, the group said. Hizbollah said its artillery bombarded an Israeli unit stationed near Markaba and hit it with full force," in a statement issued in Beirut.

in limbo; Dubrovnik tense American initiative to stop the bloodshed in the Balkans was stalled on Monday while three envoys killed in a road were also aboard.

accident were flown home for burial and a new U.S. negotiating team was being hastily In Geneva, a five-nation Contact Group on Bosnia postponed its scheduled

Tuesday meeting because many. Robert Frasure, the U.S. representative, was among those killed on Saturday outside the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo. The group - Russia. France, Britain, Germany

and the United States -- was to discuss the U.S. plan for ending three years of fighting among Muslims, Croats and Serbs in Bosnia. A plane taking back the flag-draped coffins landed at

Andrews air force base in

Washington at 12.15 p.m.

assembled

injured in the accident and the two surviving senior members of the U.S. mission

We went to the Bosnian conflict as a team early this week. We will return tomorrow to Washington as a team," Ambassador Richard Holbrooke told reporters on Sunday after arriving in Ger-

With the peace initiative marking time, attention was again focused on the historic Croatian port of Dubrovnik, where some 10,000 troops have been deployed in readiness to strike at Serb gunners in the hills above.

Dubrovnik Mayor Nikola Obulien said he expected the new U.S. plan to cover the mediaeval Adriatic port, where tourists have been driven off by Serb gunners. Croatia was willing to give the peace process time to

"What the solution is going to be, I cannot say. It can be a kind of demilitarisation on both sides, it can be withdrawal, or some other solution," he told a news confer-

Municipal authorities would decide this week whether to lift a state of emergency which has been in effect for most of this month because of the threat of Serb shelling, he said. When Washington laun-

ched its initiative earlier this month it said there was a window of opportunity for ending the Bosnian war and the overall crisis involving the republics of Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia.

The size of the window is defind partly by a vote due in the U.S. Congress in September on whether to lift un-

(Continued on page 7)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Syrian foreign minister to tour Scandinavia

DAMASCUS (AP) - Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa will begin a five-day tour of Scandinavia on Tuesday, the

state-run news agency reported. Mr. Sharaa will visit

Denmark, Sweden and Norway for discussions on "the

latest developments in the Middle East peace process,

bilateral relations and Syria's relations with the European

Union (EU)," SANA said Monday. He will also hold talks

with EU officials on a conference in Barcelona, Spain, later

this year that will deal with ties between the union and

Militants shoot dead Egyptian policeman

MINYA (AFP) - Militants shot dead a policeman and

wounded another Monday in Mallawi in southern Egypt,

police said. Mohammad Galal Abdul Al, 53, was killed and

his colleague, Zaki Abdel Ali, 50, was seriously injured

when fundamentalists opened fire and fled, a police official

said. The death brings to 850 the number of people killed

since Islamist militants began a violent campaign to topple

Engine failure forces PIA jet to land

non-European Mediterranean countries.

the Egyptian government in March 1992.

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"There is hope as long as these procedures are monitored." Nevzat Yalcintas told the semi-official Anatolian news agency.

The authorities there are wishing and praying for the situation to be sorted out in the appeals process or in the commission of high judges," he said, without details. "I hope (the Turks) will not receive this sad punishment."

The beheading in Saudi Arabia earlier this month of four Turks under Saudi Arabia's strict Islamic Sharia law has caused a furore in Turkey and strained ties between the two countries.

Turkey's Foreign Ministry said last week a further 20 Turks were already on death row and 20 others were being tried on capital charges for drug smuggling.

Amnesty International said in a statement last week those on trial had no right to a lawyer and many foreigners could not follow the proceedings as trials were in Arabic, usually with no interpreter. Torture was used to extract confessions, it said.

It also said there was essentially no appeals process, but lawyers in Saudi Arabia said criminal cases went to the appeals court after the Sharia court, and that a review board monitored the Sharia court to ensure proper procedures were followed.

The commission of high judges intervenes to settle differences between different

courts, the lawvers said. Mr. Yalcintas, who went to Jeddah on Friday, delivered a message from Turkish President Suleyman Demirel to Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz, asking for a halt to the executions of Turks charged with smuggling the sex-stimulant captagon drug.

He returned home without a hoped-for meeting with Saudi King Fahd, largely blaming Turkey's media for jeopardising the meeting with negative reports.

Mr. Yalcintas gave no indication of real progress in his bid for clemency for those on death row. He did not specify if Turkey would be told before any further beheadings of its citizens.

Mr. Yalcintas lamented the lack of a Saudi-Turkish agreement on the exchange of criminals.

"If only there were (an agreement)," he said. "Then we could say 'give us back our criminals'... it is very difficult to go to people, showered with insult every day by our media, and ask them for amnesty and understanding for our citizens."

. Turkey's media has overflowed with livid reports of alleged Saudi "atrocities," even suggesting criminals were beheaded so their internal organs could be used for

transplants. Turkish Islamic authorities, under attack from secularists, questioned the Islamic basis for the beheadings.

Saudi Arabia's Islamic law demands public execution by sword of rapists, murderers, drug smuggiers and violent armed robbers. It has repeatedly warned that drug smugglers would be executed

Saudi newspapers have stressed the kingdom will continue applying Islamic Sharia law regardless of outside pressure.

Meanwhile, a Lebanese and a Pakistani were executed in Saudi Arabia on Monday after being convicted on charges of smuggling drugs into the kingdom. Lebanese Nabil Dawoud

Abbas Hamadeh and Baruiz Rashid Mohannad, a Pakistani, were beheaded in Riyadh.

Scholars seek to explore early Muslim-Christian ties, co-existence

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Looking for abetter understanding be-tween faiths, world scholars and professors Monday sought to highlight historical background to the Muslim-Christian relationship, especially in terms of coexistence between Muslims and non-Muslims through Islamic his-

In a paper delivered at a four-day workshop on 'Christian Perceptions of Islam; Muslim Perceptions of Christianity: The Historical Record," Professor Wadi Haddad from the Duncan Black MacDonald Centre for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations tackled the status of Christians and Jews in Islam and argued that they were not

reduced to a taxpayers' sta-"Christians in the Muslim empire were not only payers of jizya and kharaj" (forms of

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(R) — The bombing on Monday of a Jerusalem bus, that

killed six people and wound-

ed more than 100 was the

latest in a series of bloody

attacks that have battered

Israel-Palestinian peace

Here are some of the key

incidents in which scores of

people have died while Israel

and the Palestine Liberation

Organisation (PLO) negoti-

ate implementation of va-

rious stages of their

framework peace accord

settler Baruch Goldstein

sprays gunfire on worship-

pers in a mosque in Hebron

in the West Bank, killing at

least 30 before survivors beat.

- April 6: Bus blast in

northern Israeli town of Afu-

la kills eight Israelis and a

suicide bomber. The Islamic

him to death.

- Feb. 25, 1994: Jewish

signed in September 1993:

efforts.

taxes in the Islamic economic system), he said. "They were farmers, artisans, craftsmen, traders and merchants. Among them were accomplished physicians, pharmacologists, philosophers, astronomers and theolo-

gians," he said. "Negative assessments of the dhimma - tax - system was published by an Israeli writer in 1985 in an effort to justify the Zionist insistence on establishing a Jewish state." he added.

Quoting Egyptian writer Fahmi Huweidhi, Mr. Haddad said: "Muslims and non-Muslims together form a

single community — the

Jane McAuliffe, chair and professor of the Department for the Study of Religion at the University of Toronto in Canada, concluded in her paper on Islam's concept of other religions that there was

not a common stance among

opposed to the peace deal,

crowded bus station in Israeli

town of Hadera kills five and

guerrillas spray popular Jeru-

salem nightlife area with

automatic weapons fire, kill-

ing two Israelis before Israeli

- Oct. 14: Kidnapped

Israeli soldier Nachshon

Waxman, 19, is killed during

failed Israeli rescue attempt

on a Hamas hideout. Án

Israeli commando officer and

three Hamas kidnappers also

Saleh Abdul Rahim Al Souwi

kills himself and 22 other

people in suicide bomb attack

on an Israeli bus on Tel

Aviv's main Dizengoff street.

nalist Hani Abed, an Islamic

- Nov. 2: Palestinian jour-

- Oct. 19: Hamas bomber

police shoot them dead.

a Hamas suicide bomber.

- April 13: Bus blast in

— Oct. 10: Two Hamas

claims responsibility.

Militants keep up violence against peace efforts

sibility.

Muslim scholars regarding claims that the scripts of the Old and New Testaments were altered or tampered

"The assertion of whole scale textual corruption remains an uncommon stance," she said. While "the Koran and the early biographical materials on (the Prophet) Mohammad charge that Jews and Christians with the possession and/or the conveyance of corrupted scriptures... the Muslim tradition has certainly not seen it fit to ignore completely previous scriptures nor to render conclusive judgements against them. In fact, they function as key foundation stones to situate and support the Isla-

mic edifice. Sidney Griffith of the Institute of Christian Oriental Research at the Catholic University of America in the U.S. said: "In modern times there have been efforts to reinvigorate the Arabic

Islamic Jihad blames Israel,

which does not deny respon-

- Nov. 11: Palestinian

cyclist from the Islamic Jihad

movement kills himself and

three Israeli soldiers at a

military post near a Jewish

settlement in the Gaza Strip.

policeman, member of

Hamas, blows himself up

near soldiers' bus stop in

Jerusalem, wounding 13 peo-

- - Jan. 22, 1995: Two Isla-

mic Jihad suicide bombers

kill 21 Israelis, all but one of

them soldiers, in explosions

that rip through a bus stop at

Beit Lid near Netanya in

plosion in Gaza City apart-

ment kills several Palesti-

nians, among them leading

Hamas guerrilla Kamal Kheil

and an assistant. Hamas,

vowing revenge, blames

Israel for blast, accuses PLO

- April 2: Mysterious ex-

central Israel.

Dec. 25: Palestinian

theological expression of the indigenous Christians of the Islamic World. The Christian theology in Arabic is essentially shaped by the religious experience of Islam, which has in fact provided the paradigm for a genuine doctrinal development in the presentation of the teachings of the Christian faith."

Expected to speak at the workshop on Tuesday, which is organised by the Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies and held at Forte Grand Hotel, is Jane Smith from Iliff School of Theology on French Christian narratives concerning Prophet Mohammad and the religion of Islam from the 11th to the 18th centuries. Other papers will tackle the Bible in early Muslim anti-Christian polemic and the structure of Muslim polemic in the later middle ages as well as reflections of a late 19th century convert to Islam on Judaism and Christianity in Ottoman Jerusalem.

- April 9: Militants kill

seven Jews in two suicide

bombings near Jewish settle-

ments in the Gaza Strip.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad

- June 25: Palestinian

suicide bomber blows up

donkey cart laden with explo-

sives around Jewish settle-

ments in Gaza Strip. The

man and the donkey are kil-

led. Hamas claims responsi-

- July 18: Two Israeli

hikers killed in the occupied

West Bank in attack which

the army says was probably

carried out by Hamas or

another group opposed to. Israel-PLO peace moves.

- July 24: Suicide bomb-

ing on bus in suburb of Tel

Aviv, claimed by Hamas,

Aug. 21: Apparent suicide bombing on Jeru-salem City bus kills six peo-

ple, wounds more than 100.

kills seven people.

claim responsibility.

of collusion.

ABU DHABI (AP) - A Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) jet with 152 people on board was forced to return to Abu Dhabi airport shortly after take-off due to an engine failure, a PIA official said Monday. Salim Bhutto, the airline's manager in Abu Dhabi, said the Airbus A-300 had just taken off Sunday for the Pakistani city of Lahore when the crew noticed the problem. Mr. Bhutto said there were no injuries or panic and praised the captain and the airport's emergency services for their handling of the

Sphinx will never recover its beard

CAIRO (AFP) — The Sphinx of Giza will never recover its beard, part of which is in London, Egyptian Culture Minister Farouk Hosni said Sunday during a tour of the pyramids. "It is not possible to return to the Sphinx its fake beard because part of it is in a museum in London and other fragments are in a Cairo museum. Bringing them together would only constitute a fifth of the Sphinx's original false beard," the minister told reporters. "It is therefore not necessary" to ask London for the return of its portion, ending rumours that Cairo had made such a request. The six-year restoration of the 4,500-year-old Sphinx, a 72-metre high statue with a lion's body and a pharaoh's head - including a false beard as a sign of virility - is expected to be completed "within one year," Mr.

Two killed in clash on Tajik-Afghan border

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russian border guards killed two Tajik rebels during a gun battle as they tried to cross the Tajik-Afghan border, the Interfax news agency reported Monday. The clash occurred at the Khorog border crossing, the stronghold of the Tajik autonomous region of Gomo-Badakhshan, southeast of Dushanbe. In a separate incident, unknown attackers Sunday killed the deputy head of police in the mountainous region of Fayzabad, 40 kilometres west of Dushanbe, Interfax reported. Emoni Khamoydinov, 40, was shot in front of his home, the latest of about 30 police officers killed in the current unrest. A pro-Russian government took power in Dushanbe in December 1992, overthrowing an Islamic-democratic coalition and leading thousands of opponents to flee to Afghanistan. Since then, Islamist rebels with close finks to Iran have launched a violent struggle against Tajik Present dent Emomali Rakhmonov's regime.

'The Engineer's hand'

seen in bomb attack CCCUPIED JERUSALEM But suddenly, three women (R) — Within minutes of the suicide bus bomb in Jerusalem on Monday an anonymous caller to Israel Radio claimed that "The Engineer"

had struck again.

The nickname sends shivbelongs to Yahya Ayyash, the master bomb-maker who has repeatedly slipped through the fingers of Israel's army and Shin Bet secret

He is top of a very long wanted list. Israel says he is behind the wave of bombings which have killed 77 Israelis and foreigners since the 1993 Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Israel peace

accord. He has eluded capture for more than two years and narrowly escaped death. Not much is known about him. He is thought to be 29 years

old. At his native Rafat village, in the West Bank highlands between the towns of Ramallah and Nablus, relatives be-·lieve Mr. Ayyash is under God's protection and speak

of him as a mythical figure. They tell reporters fantastic stories of how he is saved by divine intervention. In one story relatives describe how Israeli soldiers kidnapped Mr. Ayyash when

a student at Bir Zeit Umi-

versity. The soldiers took him

to a deserted settlement road

where they tried to kill him.

in white clothes came down from heaven and protected

Convinced that he was under God's protection, Mr. Ayyash had since dedicated his life to what Hamas calls ers down Israeli spines. It its holy war against the Jewish state.

Israeli security sources say Mr. Avvash, an electrical engineer by education, prepares his own explosives and plans his attacks carefully. The most notorious attack attributed to him was the spicide bombing in Tel Aviv in October 1994, in which 22 people were killed.

He has earned the name "the man with seven souls" for his ability to cheat death. Hamas activists say that his last scrape with the grim reaper was in April in PLOruled Gaza. He left a building just half an hour before it blew up, killing senior Hamas activist Kamal Kheil. Hamas blamed Israeli agents for the explosion. The Palestinian National Authority said it

was a bomb factory accident. Since then, Hamas activists said Mr. Ayyash had left Gaza to an Arab country and that his wife and child had joined him there: :

But Israeli security sources say he was still hiding in Gaza under an assumed identity. "He's still in Gaza, living with his family," said one Israeli security source.

Jihad activist, is killed when Resistance Movement, the leading Palestinian group his car blows up in Gaza. Sudan rebel group says

South Independence Movement (SSIM) charged Monit and had ruled out reconciliation talks.

In a statement released here, SSIM spokesman David de Chand said he had received a "verbal communication" on Sunday from a senior official in Colonel Garang's Sudan People Liberation Army (SPLA) saying that the group was "no longer interested in peace talks unless the SSIM was headed by William Nyuon,'

a dissident member. SSIM last week denied claims by Nyuon and another dissident, John Luk Jok, that they had deposed the group's leader, Rick Machar.

Mr. De Chand said the alleged coup in the SSIM was a disinformation campaign orchestrated by Col. Garang. Mr. Luk and Mr. Nyuon had defected to the SPLA, he added.

"It is now obvious that Col. Garang has no agenda for peace but to wage war against SSIM," Mr. De Chand said.

Mr. Chand said Mr. Nyuon and Mr. Luk were now in the Kongor area of southern Sudan preparing to attack

rivals have declared war NAIROBI (AFP) - The SSIM positions in Yuai, Ayod and Waat.

SSIM's "security organs" day that the mainstream re- had asked Machar for "exbel faction led by John traordinary and emergency Garang had declared war on measures against any subversive activities related to this conspiracy," he said, adding that the SPLA would be held responsible for the consequ-

SPLA spokesman Steven Wondu told AFP that Pagan Amum, chairman of the SPLA's peace committee, had made it clear to the SSIM that his faction would not negotiate reunification with Machar because as far as the SPLA was concerned, he ceased to be SSTM's leader on August 14, when he was allegedly deposed by Mr.

Former U.S. president Jimmy Carter visited Sudan last month to continue efforts to end the civil war there and called in Nairobi for unity talks between the rebels, saying: "I think it would be constructive to have unity within the southern com-

South Sudanese rebels took up arms against Khartoum in 1993 under Col. Garang's SPLA.

It split into two factions in 1991, when Mr. Machar, then Col. Garang's deputy, left to form the SPLA-United.

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate

Moroccans asked to vote for constitutional change

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco on Sunday called a referendum on Sept. 15 for a constitutional amendment that would allow parliament to vote on the state budget in June rather than in October.

The king also said in a televised speech marking the 42nd anniversary of the start of the fight for independence from France, that another referendum would be held next year for splitting the unicameral parliament into two chambers.

Announcing the first referendum, the king said pas-sing the budget in June would make more sense as it would allow the government to see the result of the agricultural harvest in May before mak-

ing its budget forecasts.

This is not a technical amendment. It is a vital amendment because Morocco is, and will for years to come, remain dependent on agriculture," the king said. "Therefore, we have to

take agricultural revenue into consideration in preparing our budget so that we do not make over-pessmistic or over-optimistic projections...," he added. "I hope you will vote

'yes'," the King told his peo-This will mean that the

Army, Marka,

Amul Hospital

ZARQA:

Special Surgery ...

Ibn Sina Hospital Al Hikma Modern Hospital

Oucen Alia Hospital

Amal Hospital
The Arab Centre for Heart and
865199

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital

sed at the end of October for the six months from January to June, after which a 12month budget would be prepared to take effect from July 1996.

next state budget will be pas-

The government's forecasts in the present budget for fiscal 1995 were thrown off balance by a disastrous cereals harvest following a severe drought. The king did not give a

date for the second referendum but he said he was speaking now to give his people a chance to think about the proposed change. King Hassan said his prop-

osal was to split parliament into two chambers.

There will be a chamber for deputies and one for senators," he said, adding that the bicameral system would create a more representative parliament.

He did not give more de-tails on how the deputies in the proposed parliament would be elected.

Morocco's opposition parties have criticised the present parliamentary system. under which two thirds of the 333 members of parliament are elected by direct ballot and one third by electoral college.

Sudan Airways in row over Britain-S. Africa flights Airways and Airline Liaison

JOHANNESBURG (R) A row erupted on Monday between Sudan Airways and its former sales agent in South Africa over who was responsible for leaving.hundreds of people stranded in London and thousands more with unused tickets.

Sudan Airways, which halted flights between South Africa and Britain last week, said it was not responsible for issuing tickets for the suspended Johannesburg-London service.

But Johannesburg-based Airline Liaison, until last week the airline's general sales agent, said Sudan Airways was ultimately responsi-

"In terms of this agreement all passenger_liabilities are ultimately the responsibility of Sudan Airways." Airline Liaison said. Sudan Airways offered a

divergent view. "All tickets issued by Airline Liaison and other expenses for operating flights to Johannesburg (and London) via Khartoum are the liability of Airline Liaison pursuant to

an agreement between Sudan

dated June 21, 1995," the airline said in a statement faxed to Reuters by its London office.

Sudan Airways said it was planning legal action against Airline Liaison. The South African Company, which has ceased operations, said it would defend any such action.

Airline Liaison said the contract for operating the Johannesburg-London flights . was awarded by Sudan Air-: ways to Air Ops of Europe, a, Swedish airline. The South African company said it had bought seats on these flights.

It said the Swedish company ceased operating the services for Sudan Airways after a commercial dispute? and efforts by Airline Liaison ' and Sudan Airways to make. alternative arrangements had. fallen through.

British Airways has offered stranded passengers and those holding unused tickets discounted fares. Sudan Airways said it planned to reopen the South Africa-London route in November.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

4:00	Captain Planct
4:30	
	Road to Avonica
	Families
7:00	
	kiren's Programme — Doug
/:30	Montagno
7:50	Taratara
9:00	News in French
	Faut Pas Rever
0-30	News Headlines
25 -0	News Headlines
	Piglet Files
0:30	The Bold and the Beautiful
1:15	True Blue
	News in English
1.76	The Fire Next Time
تئت	The Fire Next Time

23:30 New York Undercover

PROGRAMME TWO

..... Grace Under Fire **PRAYER TIMES**

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St. Mary of Nazareth Church Assemblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation Tcl.

De la Salle Church Tcl. 661757 Terrasancta Church Tcl: 622366 Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. 652526. Evangell 824328.

Tel. 811295.

Church of Nazar

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meleorology.

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Deserts	19/ 3

cadings: Amman 51 per cent. Evangelical tion Tel. 684195 Congregation Tel. 684195 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 654932 The Evangelical Local Church In

WEATHER

moderate weather condi-

Min./Max. temp. Amman	16/27
Aqaha Deserts	24/ 35

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR Jordan Valley 25 / 37 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27. Aqaba 35. Humidity

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:	
Dr. Mukhles Mazahrah	82042
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim	64902
Dr. Salman Daboubi	77675
Dr. Khalid M'addi	74350
Fires pharmacy	
Ferdows pharmacy	
Al Asema pharmacy	
Nairoukh pharmacy	
Al Salam pharmacy	
Yacoub pharmacy	
Shmeisani pharmacy	
Name the shares	62367
Nairoukh pharmacy	
Najih pharmaty	. 14700

Dr. Mohammad Al Khalili 273099 Alques pharmacy (—) ZARQA: Dr. Randa Shahin 995710

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Rescue ... Civil Defence Emergency 199 Rescue Police 192. 621111. 637777 Fire Brigade. Highway Police Public Police Public Security Department Hotel Complaints Price Complaints Water and Sewerage Complaints Amman Municipality Complaints. Telephone Information (directory assistance). Abdali Telephone Repairs 623101 Jordan Television 77311 Water Authority Jordan Electricity Authority 815615 Ouecn Alia Intl. Airport (84-53200) HOSPITALS

........ 630341 ... 896390 897467

Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nalces Hospital ... Princess Haya Hospital ((13)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Hussein Medicar Central Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6 INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT**

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia to ternational Airport Tel. (08)5320-5, where it should always be veri-Akilch Maternity, J. Amn. 64244172 Jahal Amman Maternity 642362 Malhas. J. Amman 636140 Maihas, J. Amman ... Palestine, Shmeisani Al-Muasher Huspital 667227/9 The Islamic. Abdali 666127/37 Al-Ahli. Abdali 664164/6 **ARRIVALS** Royal Jordanian (RJ) Italian, Al-Muhajreen . Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich

..... 686100

(09)900560

(02)275556

(02)272275

Flights (Terminal 1) 64:19 Lakarra, Kuala Lumpur (RJ) 96:45 Madrid (add) (RI) 08:69 Damascus (RI) Ahu Dhabi. Al 'Ain (RJ) Agaba (RJ) Muscat, Dubai (RJ) 10:35 10:50 Doha, Bahrain Frankfurt (R1) 18:25 ... Chicago, Amsterdam (R1) 19:60 Cairo, Alexandria (R1) 22:30 Montreal (add) (R1)

.... Bangkok (udd) (Other Flights (Terminal 2)

:28	Vienna (OS)
-25	Cairo (MS)
-10	Ahu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
:00	Munich (YP)
:00	Riyadh (SV) Rome (AZ)
:28	Komc (A2)

DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)

	•
6:40	Beirut (RJ) Bangkok (add) (RJ)
7:45	Bangkok (add) (D.)
6:60	Aqaba (RJ)
9-40	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
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Other Flights (Terminal 2) Beirut (ME Cuiro (MS) 14-16 Abu Dhabi (GF) Sharm Al Sheikh, Munich (YP) Riyadh (SV) 15:30 Amsterdam (KL)
..... Bucharest (RO)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 every Monday 5:00 p.m. every Monday 7:30 a.m. every Sunday 5:00 p.m. every Sunday MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Carror ······ 320/220 Cucumbers (large) 150 / 100 Cucumbers (small) 300 / 200 180/ 100 680/500 Grapes 420/300 Warrow (farge) 200 / 100 Mulukhia Okra Onion (dry) 140 / 90 Orange Peaches 200 JOD

Water Melon 170 / 100

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200 / 100

320/ 220

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Tajik-Afghan bork border guards killed: e as they tried to the rriax news agency repo at the Khorog border ajik autonomous regu t of Dushanbe, In a sens inday killed the depune is region of Favzaba Interfax reported b front of his home, the ed in the current unto power in Dushant an Islamic-democratic: of opponents to fle ist rebels with close link struggle against Tapk Pa

in row over ca flights

Airways and Airline Le dated June 21, 1995 airline said in a sur faxed to Reuters by it. don office. Sudan Airways saidt planning legal action E Airline Liaison. The African Company, where

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HIJAZ RAILUI TRAIN Art. Amman

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Caulificiaer

Carrot Caulilower Cucumbers (large) Cucumbers (small) Eggplant Figs Garlic Grapes Lemon Marrow (large) Marrow (small) Melukhia Onion (dry)

Pepper (hor)
Pepper (sweet)
Potato

UNDP '95 human development report says women still lagging behind

Princess Basma: Gender discrepancies should be reduced

national and Arab level this

should be improved and the

The meeting was addressed by UNDP resident

representative in Jordan Jor-

discrepancies reduced.

Planning Rima Khalaf.

The deep interest

women's role as a global

fact, said Mr. Lissner, is that

"investment in women, in

their education, in their

health, in their active partic-

ipation in the economy and

in civil society ranks us one

of humankind's most benefi-

Ms. Khalaf stated that

although gender equality

still had to be attained

worldwide, the beginning

signs in Jordan are encour-

She said that Jordan had

worked upon improving its

resources and despite its

cial investments."

By Cathy King Jordan Times Staff Repairer

AMMAN — The concept of human development has been focused upon over the last three decades, and it has been repetitively proven that sustainable development cannot be achieved without furthered equality and lessened disparity between the roles of men and women, stated Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday.

On the occasion of the official launch of the United Development (UNDP) 1995 report in the Middle East region, Princess Basma, the region's honorary ambassador to the UNDP, asserted that the "role of women is still marginalised ... and legislation (still) discriminates against

women." The 1995 report focused upon particularly the discrepancies felt by women within society the world

This year's report has shown how no country treats

its women as well as its men; analysed global trends in closing and widening gender gaps in different regions and countries; and presented new indicators of gender equality to rank countries on a giobal scale.

It also proposed new methodologies to measure and value the unpaid contributious made by women and men to human development through household work and community activities, highlighted concrete policies that have ensured more equal access to opportunities for women and men in various countries, and finally it identified a new action agendafor promoting gender equal-

ity in the decades ahead. "In the Arab World, we are at the beginning of the road," Princess Basma told the gathering attended by prominent members of the national and international

community in Amman, In the Arab World, women constitute "21 per cent of the workforce, hold four per cent of parliamentary seats rial posts," noted the Princess who added that improvements have been witnessed. through cooperation on a "The participation of

women in all activities has increased. Jordan is now an important country in the world. Eighty-five per cent of women receive education. In 1990 illiteracy among gen Lissner and UN Under-Secretary General Hazem Beblawi and Minister of women was below 18 per cent and now women consutute 60 per cent of those receiving higher education,"

she observed. Since women gained suffrage in 1974, they have begun to be involved in parliamentary and municipal elections, which, Ms. Khalaf underlined, an important step in the political history of Jordan.

The Human Development Report 1995 was released at the United Nations in Washington on Aug. 17.

Jordan was chosen to launch the report regionally on account of Princess Basma's position as the region's honorary ambas-

Lebanon looks into participating at MENA summit, says visiting minister

AMMAN (J.T.) — Visiting Lebanese Minister of Agriculture Shawqi Fakhouri met Prime Minister Sharit Zeid Ben Shaker Monday and announced later that the Lebanese government was studying a Jordanian invitation to participate in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) summit due in October.

The subject will be fully considered by the Lebanese government which will make the final decision in this regard, said the minister in a statement quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra. Lebanon and Syna have avoided meetings connected to the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process pending progress in

the bilateral phase.

The Lebanese minister, who is today expected to sign an agreement with his Jordanian counterpart, Mansour Ben Tarif, on further promoting Jordanian-Lebanese trade and the exchange of agriculturid products, said that the talks he beld with Mr. Ben Tani Sunday were positive and that the two countries were keen on encouraging full cooperation in agricultural

The Prime Minister was quoted as saying that Jordan was ready to offer assistance to Lebanon in reconstructing the national economy fol-



Jordan was interessted in premeting for danium-Lebanese ties as parfit of its ongoing efforts to r e-establish solidaniy amet g Arab

Mr. Fakhoun said, that His

Prime Minister Shi vif Zeid Ben Shaker Monday meets with visiting Lebanese Minister of Agriculture Shaw qi Fakhouri (second right) who arrived Sunday morning on a threeday official visit. At so attending the meeting were Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben Tarif and Lebanese Ambassador to Jordan William Habib (right) (Petra photo)

dent Elias Hrawi Sunday, lowing 15 years off civil has stressed that the Kingdorn was ready to stand by Lebanon and offer it all pos-

countries, Petra was quoted

Majesty King Hus yein, to whom he delivered in message from Lebanes e Presicultural Marketing Organisation (AMO) Director Salem Lawzi.

sible support and assistance. Jordan has been exporting different types of agricultural products to Lebanon and importing Lebanese apples, cherries, oranges and lemon under an existing agreement which is to be upgraded Tuesday, according to Agri-

Mr. Lawzi said that under the old agreement ministers of agriculture from the two countries met once a year and a follow-up committee met occasionally to update agreements or to solve problems arising from the exchange of trade.

Princess Haya tours northern badia region development projects

AL SAFAWI (Petra) --- Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein toured the northern badia regions where she inspected a government sponsored project designed to raise the standard of living of these region's inhabitants.

tive effort of the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST) and the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre. The Princess, who was

Zein Bint Nasser, the director of public relations and finance for the project, was briefed by engineers and officials on the different stages of the project's implementation.

The project is a cooperaaccompanied by Sharifa

The scheme entails help ing livestock breeders in caring for sheep and other development projects which will be set up on 11,000-



Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein Monday tours the northern badia

square-kilometres in the northern and eastern badia

Sharif Fawaz Zaben, His several advisor on tribal affairs, and on a tour of the region.

army officers Majesty King Hussein's accompanied the Princess

Jordanian, Palestinian business group plans for October economic conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint committee on agriculture formed by the Jordanian-Palestinian Businesss Council (JPBC) opened a meeting in Amman Monday to prepare plans for submission to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) conference scheduled to convene in

Amman in late October. The committee will study projects and prepare an agenda in agricultural cooperation fields to be first referred to the JPBC meeting in the coming week, according to a statement from the Jordanian Busi-Association

(JBA) where the meeting is to be held.

The two sides also reviewed the issue of establishing a Jordanian-Palestinian marketing company as the JPBC had suggested last June, the statement said.

The committee had agreed on setting up a technical team to convene Tuesday to chart the broad aims of the projected company, it added. The Jordanian side was headed by Jack Khayat, and the Palestinian side by

Ismail Dweik. Meanwhile, the JBA said Monday that an executive committee coordinating the private sector participation in the MENA conference will meet on Aug. 28 to dis-cuss topics on the agenda of the MENA meeting and the work of the sectoral committees entrusted with helping in the preparation for the

upcoming conference. The JBA said at least 100 businessmen representing various economic sectors will attend the meeting along with representatives of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) which is helping the private sector in its efforts.

The JBA said that the participants will also focus on regional economic cooperation and matters related to improving the quality of manufactured products.

Monday Maher Shukri, chairman of the private sector's financial and investment committee, set up by the private sector's executive responsible for coordination for the MENA conference, told a press conference that his committee has been preparing several working papers dealing with the activities of the Amman Financial Market and invest-· ment policies in Jordan.

Ministry plans to impose tolls on certain roads

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Razzak Ensour Monday announced that a road toll system on certain highways may go into effect before the end of

lic cover part of the road

maintenance costs. Tolls will be applied first on the 70-kilometre Zara -Ghor Haditheh Highway connecting the Jordan Vallev with Agaba Highway ---

one of the best high ways in the Middle East region, he

On cooperation between Jordan and Israel in the establishment of regad systems, Dr. Ensour said that according to international norms neighbouring councharges will range between trick are expected to design 100 fils to 500 fils. The aim, their road network; so that he added, is to have the publishes link through the borders of the countries eas ily.

> In that respect, he said, the Ministry of Public Works will build several bridges linking the Kingd om with the Palestine self-r ule areas as well as with Isra el.

He emphasised, however, that such projects are still at the preliminary planning

Dr. Ensour said the Jordan Armed Forces recently fortified the King Hussein Bridge on the Jordan River to 60 tonnes (double the weight it previously was able to support). The added capacity is expected to help trade between Jordan and

the West Bank The minister said Jordan currently has 10,000 kilometres of asphalted roads and

6,000 kilometres of agricul-

tural roads which the Ministry of Public Works is continually maintaining.

He said, however, that the ministry's JD 38 million annual budget has required it to adopt a programme of gradual maintenance because at least JD 150 million will be required to conduct all-the necessary maintenance on all the Kingdom's roads.

The minister said that the proposed toll plan will first be submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval before it can be enforced.



A CONVENIENT REFRESHMENT SITAND: Iraqi men sell brewed tea in a downtown Amman area (photo

WHAT'S GOING ON

DARAT AL FUNUN **SUMMER '95 EXHIBITIONS**

Works of graphic art by several artists at the South Gallery.

Photography show "Elements in Harmony" by Hala Hodieb at the Blue House.

Display of pointed stone and steel, "Embargo Art" by Iraqi artist Nuha Al Radi at the Garden of the Blue House.

"Early Morning Scribbles" by Lebanese artist Amin Al Basha and Jordanian artist Rajwa Bint Ali and "Late Night Scribbles" by Amin Al Basha and artist Ali Bermamet at the North Gallery.

Ceramic shop at the lower Garden.

Sculpture by Rajwa Bint Ali at the Open Air Sculpture vorkshop.

Works by contemporary artists at the Central Gallery.

3-D experiments in calligraphy by Usama Khalidi at the

PLAYS

"The Maids," (written by Jean Genet) starring Majid Al Qasas and Najwa Kondakji at the Royal Cultural Centre, Main Theatre at 8:30 p.m.

"Badranah," (in Arabic) at the Royal Cultural Centre at

NEWS

McNeil _ Lehrer News Hour at the American Centre at

EXHIBITIONS

Oil paintings by Yassin Al Mohammadawi at Baladna Art

Paintings by "Pioneers of the Fifties" Isma'il and Suzanne Al Sheikhly, Khalid Qassab, and Dr. Nuri Behjet at Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Utheina.

* Exhibition demonstrating the developments of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

Joint transport panel to meet

Syrian-Jordanian committee on transport and transit will meet here today to examine ways to simplify customs measures and facilitate travel between the Kingdom and Syria. The two parties are expected to discuss customs tariffs, entry fees paid by vehicles at border posts, and ways to facilitate transit, a Ministry of Transport statement said Monday.

AMMAN(Petra) - The

today

Schools open for new scholastic year today

AMMAN (Petra) -- On the eve of the re-opening of schools today for the 1995-96 scholar tie year, the Department of Education in the Ammar, area said Monday that it had decided on assigning 15 of Amman governorate's 2:21 schools to offer evening classes to stu-

Departmer it Mashour K harabsheh said the department has also made plans to open 26 literacy and ade dit education centres within the governorate.

A total of 115,000 first graders are and the country this year are to attend school, and of these at least 9,000 students are located in Amman Governorate, according to Mr. Kharab-

sheh. The new scholastic year will also see the opening of three new schools located at Yajouz, Naifeh and Manarah districts, built at a cost of JD 2.25 million, said Mr.

Kharabsheh. A JD 3.5 million project to build six more schools is under way, with their completion expected towards the end of next year, Mr. Karab-

The new schools are located at Manarah, Naser, Hashemi Janoubi, Sweileh, Marka and University of Jordan housing estate. The department has also

appropriated lands in the Tla Al Ali, Tareg, Prince Rashed, and Al Khazneh districts of Amman, as well as at army officers housing estate at the cost of JD 1.7 million as sites for proposed new schools. Mr. Kharabsheh said.

About 1.315 million students will attend private and public schools in various parts of the Kingdom today.

TOKYO (R) — Trade Min-≛ ister Ryutaro Hashimoto, politicians, on Monday launched a long-awaited bid bre for his party's presidency, a of is a post which would make him helical a strong contender to be the as enext prime minister.

de The present Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) president, Foreign Minister Yohei an with Kono, also said on Monday sai si he would seek a second twobu year term in the Sept. 22 constant party election, taking up Mr. Hashimoto's challenge. the Mr. Hashimoto, who

Year gained considerable praise for his tough approach to a car-trade row with the United States that was settled in a June, said on Monday: "our ha party has come under severe criticism from the people in endition the upper-house elections." we will seek the presidency

nic it to recover trust in our party, he told a news conference at party headquarters. The LDP suffered a setback in the July 23 upper-

house polls. In voting by or party in the proportional rep-c. 35 resentation part of the polls,



Hashimoto,

58, is riding

a wave of

popular sup-port after the car-trade Ryutaro Hashin 1 oto

row with the United States, averting U.S. sanctions and a possible trade war with: Japan's closest ally.

Since he began a year-long stint as LDP secretary-general in 1989, Mr. Hashimoto has consistently figured high as a future prime minister in opinion polls. But he had nêver launched a formal bid to become party head, a necessary first step.

Against that, Mr. Kono.

ing a rearaction. mostly the strength

1994, by forming an unwieldy coalition that made Socialist Party leader Tomiichi Murayama prime of winning Mr. Murayama does not share power for have to call general elections his , party for the more powerful lower house until mid-1997. Many

ldp spent a year opposition. "Mr. Kono told a

after

will from in next month's presidiential elections." an. LDF' spokesman said. Mr. Kon o was not expected to anner ince his platform until Saturiday after returning from an official trip to Cambodia Thailand and Aus-The LDP enjoyed 40 years

of imbroken rule until

repe ated scandals toppled it

from power in general elec-

Mugabe

urges

would continue to support Mr. Murayama's coalition government for the time being, but would strive for an LDP government at the time of the next general

remained the biggest party.

It made a comeback in June.

senior Socialist and LDP

members say the earliest

The Sept. 22 race will

decide who will become one

of the top contenders to be

the next premier, because

the head of one of the two

biggest parties, the LDP or

Shinshinto, will most likely

succeed MR. Murayama

Mr. Hashimoto said be

after the general elections.

possible date is next May.

China expresses 'deep regret' over Japanese plans to cut aid

BELIING (AFP) — China expressed "deep regret" Monday over Japan's plans to restrict grant aid to Beijing after last week's nuclear test, urging Tokyo to reflect on its wartime atrocities rather than criticising others.

"The Japanese government unwarrantedly criticised China's nuclear test and indicated that it would take the step of reducing its governmental grants to China. We would like to express our deep regret about that," said a foreign ministry spokesman.

The Japanese government and people reacted with outrage over Beijing's nuclear test Thursday, with Foreign Minister Yohei Kono telling the Chinese ambassador that Tokyo's grant aid to China would be restricted" in response.

While saying that China understood "the feelings of Japan as world's only victim country of nuclear weapons," the foreign ministry spokesman said he hoped Japan would "understand the sentiment of the Chinese people especially on the occasion of the 50th anniversary" of the end of World War II.

"Japan should make a profound introspection of its historical responsibilities instead of making a fuss over the issue of China's nuclear tests and still less linking nuclear with economic issues," he said.

Only in this way could Tokyo "prevent the healthy development of Sino-Japanese relations from being impaired," he said. Japan is China's largest

creditor, extending 1.55 trillion yen to its neighbour since 1979, including aid and ven-denominated lowinterest official loans.

Japanese politicians have accused the government of

a polite but emphatic thumbs

down to Mr. Lee, saying the

confrontation with China

which he represents would

politicizi who has already

announced his candidacy,

Lin Yang-Kang, has already

urged rapprochement with

not going far enough in its retaliation for China's nuclear test, referring to pledges by M- Kono that future official loans would not be affected. Loans from Japan to

China totalled 138.7 billion Yen for the year to March 1994, compared with 9.8 billion Yen in grant aid and 7.6 billion Yen in technical cooperation. The Chinese foreign min-

istry spokesman reiterated Beijing's commitment to the non-first use of nuclear missiles, saying "China's possession of a small amount of nuclear weapons is soleLy for its selfdefence and poses no threat to any country."

He also expressed support for the early conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), after which China has pledged to stop all testing.

Another key candidate, the chairman of Taiwan's top

watchdog body, the Control

Chen

announced he was leaving

the ruling party last week to

pursue a presidential bid on

the platform of better rela-

Mr. Chen's departure was

a major blow for the nation-

alists and sparked some ana-

lysts to talk of divisions

within the ruling party's ranks, prompting Mr. Lee to

call in his speech for unity

and an end to factionalism.

tions with the mainland.

Yuan,

Insect expert cooks 'em up CLEVELAND: (AP)

There could be a million

species of insects still undiscovered in the world and Gene White has a hunger to

find them. "Think of the possibilities," the graduate student says. He's not talkof excise from the s ing about scientific possibilities. He means cooking and eating Entomology - the study of insects — is his Sale of field of study at Purdue University in West Latayene, telephe Indiana. But his field of avocation is entomophagy: directo eating insects. There are still some things that I'll look at and think, T'don't to begi know about this.' but then Sept. 1 I'll take a bite. Man, I'll eat anything," says Mr. White, a former exterminator. Mr. White and his collection of STARITY 1995 HOW TO A TOTAL WILL THE bug recipes were on Sunday's programme at bugfest '95, sponsored by Cleve gale 3: the Te ners Corporation munications has

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Metroparks. Mr. White's recipes include herbed rice an termite. That includes steamed wild rice. diced carrots, garlic and turmeric to taste, and as many termites as you can stand, er, want.

10-year-old shoots toddler in fight over video qame

HOLLYWOOD, Florida (AFP) - A 10-year-old shot her three-year-old brother in the head during a quarrel over a video game and was charged with attempted murder, police said Sunday. The boy underwent brain surgery and was listed in serious condition after the the incident Friday, which occurred when the children were left at home alone. The girl, whose name was being withheld because of her age. shot the child when she and another eight-year-old brother and an eight-yearold cousin were playing with the gun and began arguing over a video game. After the shooting, the girl ran to a neighbour's for help but first told authorities the child had shot himself with their father's pistol. She later recanted and said she was afraid to tell the truth because her father might beat her. She was charged with attempted murder. The children's mother had left, about an hour before the shooting for a vacation cruise and the father was at the home of a friend. The parents could be charged with negligence.

Dog arrested for killing cat

LONDON (AFP) — British police have arrested a dog for killing a cat, and are holding it in custody pending a ruling on its fate, offi-cials said Monday. Lucy, a three-year-old bull terrier bitch, was seized on Friday after doing what came naturally with a neighbour's pet moggy. Under the dangerous dogs act, designed to clamp down on breeds like pitt bulls and rottweilers, police can seize hounds which cause injury to humans - in this case the dead feline's owner "The police said that because the lady whose cat it was was in shock, that meant she had suffered an injury," said Trevor Cooper, lawyer for disgruntled owner Lisa O'Brien. "Under the dangerous dogs act, Lucy would have to have injured a person, not a cat. They seized the dog unlawfully. They had no reason to seize her at all, even under this ridiculous act," he added.

Courtney Love carried off stage

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California (AP) — A security guard carried a sobbing Courtney Love off the stage after the leader of the rock band Hole twice jumped into the audience to attack fans. "Louder, you" she exhorted, apparently unhappy at the audience response on Friday's closing night of the summer Lollapalooza tour of alternative bands.
Ms. Love is the widow of former Nirvana lead singer

Judge to be Australia's next governor-general

CANBERRA (AFP) the High Court Judge Sir Ch. William Deane will be Australia's next — and possibly النواتة होंने last — governor-general in a fixed-term appointment announced ra ? Monday by Prime Minister wi her Paul Keating.

Mr. Deane will succeed the current governor-generse 🚧 al, Bill Hayden, who will se: relinquish the office Feb. 16 after seven years, Mr. Keat-ं की idद्रिश्चांd in a statement.

It means that Mr. Deane, sh rischesen by a Labour governse .~; ment and formally appointre are ed by Queen Elizabeth II of be ". " Britain, could begin his term only weeks before an election due by May but tipped G by some observers for

The judge, 64, has accept-** ed an appointment terminating on December 31, 2000, the date by which the Keating government wants Ausralia to have its first president as elected head of a -to new republic. However, a national referendum will -> decide the country's constitutional future.

Conservative opposition leader John Howard, who is well ahead in most opinion polls, is an avowed monarchist although he has promised to put the issue of whether Australia should become a republic before a national people's convenuon.

Mr. Keating's statement ended months of speculation about who would succeed Mr. Hayden, who declined an invitation to stay in the office for another two years.

The government was said to favour the appointment of an aboriginal or a woman --with an aboriginal woman strongly tipped recently.

Mr. Keating said: "I warmly welcome her majesty's appointment of Sir William Deane as governor-general to succeed Mr. Hayden."

Mr. Hayden, a former leader of the Labor Party in opposition, was nominated for the office in 1989 by the man who ousted him from the party leadership six years previously, Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

Mr. Keating said a measure of the government's admiration for Mr. Hayden's contribution was that it had asked if he would extend his term for another two years.

Sir Deane is one of six High Court justices who made the historic 1992 Mabo land rights ruling recognising Australia's indigenous peoples' prior ownership of the land. The ruling was enshrined in legislation steered through parliament two years ago by

The judge said in a statement that he and his wife were moved by the confi-

dence shown in them by their country. "The appointment is a very great honour and we approach it with humility and an awareness of the responsibility it entails," he said.

with Indonesia's 50 years of

independence has caused

ontrage bere, with youth

groups staging at least five

demonstrations outside the

Australian embassy in the

Indonesia annexed the for-

mer Portuguese colony of

East Timor in 1976, but the

United Nations still views

Lisbon as the administrator

In the latest demonstration

Monday morning, 15 protes-

tors burnt placards at the

Australian embassy gates

here, one of which read

"Make Australia Indonesia's

last ten days.

of the territory.

28th province."

Indonesian business

mandated them were moved by negati ve publicity by Africa's detractors, Mr. Mugabe sal id.

"The cril ticism of those who want to destroy Nigeria should not be allowed to

under colorial rule, the rest of Africa carne to its assistance. "They came to us when we/needled them," Mr. Mugabe/said in his speech, drawing thunderous applause from the audience.

Among those present at the dinner we're diplomats. some member's of the provisional ruling clouncil, ministers and other top government officials.

It, was the first visit by either president to Nigeria since General Abacha came to power in November 1993.

Addressing the meeting, General Ab acha urged African countries to rise to the challenges of emerging economic blocs throughout the world in order to improve the zir ailing

Taiwanese president defies China before key party congress

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan President Lee Teng-Hui accused rival China on Monday of aiming to "eliminate" his government, one day before the start of a key congress expected to nominate Mr. Lee to run for a second term

nist China has used, its military exercises, its criticisms — their aim is to eliminate the Republic of China (Taiwan). Mr. Lee said in a speech to overseas members of the ruling Nationalist

He said his controversial visits to other countries, which have drawn a storm of criticism from China, were not intended to boost his chances of being elected in Taiwan but rather to promote his country abroad.

Their aim was very simple: to promote Taiwan. Nothing else," added a stern-looking Mr. Lee.

China has said Mr. Lee's diplomatic forays were a move toward independence for Taiwan and retaliated against his private trip to the United States in June by postponing high-level talks between representatives

from Taipei and Beijing. The visit also triggered a sharp decline in relations between Beijing and Wash-

China has threatened to use military force against Taiwan, which it regards as a rebel-held province, if the island 220 kilometres off its

is Mr. Lee, whose defiant tone against Beijing sets him against important candidates in the presidential race who

are calling for reconciliation with their giant neighbour.

alist Party congress on Tues-.and Wednesday was expected to appoint Mr. Lee as its nomince for the presidential

election, although he has yet to say whether or not he plans to run. Local stock market lvsts -



ana- Soldiers of the Marine Corps of the Chinese People's Liberation Army inter- practise the island-landing strategies recently. In addition to missile and by live artillery tests in the East China Sea north of Taiwan from August 15on 25, there are reports of other Chinese military exercises around the Monday gave region (Reuters photo)

Jiang takes centre stage on eve of Deng birthday BELING (AFP) - The Chi-

nese Communist Party propaganda machine stepped up a gear Monday to boost the image of President Jiang Zemin on the eve of the 91st birthday of paramount leader Deng Xiaoping.

The People's Daily ran

two front-page stories calling for party cadres to study Mr. Deng's theories and those of his heir-designate, Mr. Jiang.

The president and party secretary general was given more prominence. And only celebrations, if at all, are expected for the birthday on Tuesday which has attracted much international atten-

Mr. Deng has not been seen in public for 18 months, fuelling regular speculation about his state of health.

One People's Daily article said political officials should give more attention "in the new period" to Mr. Deng's works on party construction. The "new period" is the phrase given to the transitional period between MR. Deng and Mr. Jiang that the party hierarchy is

trying to put in place.
"The theories of Deng Xiaoping on party construction are a powerful ideologi-

cal weapon and a guide for action," said the party daily. Mr. Jiang had a longer commentary devoted to him next to that on the patriarch. Party cadres were told to "deeply study the speech by comrade Jiang Zemin on the

reform of state enterprises." Aiready published by major newspapers last month, the speech was made after several inspection visits by Mr. Deng's favoured heir to state firms in eastern

The critical financial state of many giant public companies is one of the main problems facing China as it follows Mr. Deng's orders to move toward a market econ-

The government knows it must carry out draconian measures to save the enterprises but is hesitant about sacking tens of thousands of superfluous workers in the companies, analysts say. Mr. Jiang said in his speech that "urgent measures" were required.

But reports gave no other details except for the president telling local authorities to step up reforms to improve management,

Monday's commentary highlighted the need for political and social stability" to pursue economic development. But it added no new policy details and analysts said it was just propaganda operation to boost Mr. Jiang's image.

No other senior Chinese leader appeared or were mentioned on the front page of the People's Daily.

No official ceremonies are planned for Tuesday's birthday but none have ever been The architect of China's

much-vaunted reform programme was last seen in public in February last year, for Chinese new year commemorations. Then, he could barely walk. A photo apparently taken of Mr. Deng on China's national day last October 1 showed him an enfeebled figure sat in a chair and wrapped in a blanket watching the fire-

Sahlin clear favourite for Swedish premier

STOCKHOLM (R) - Swedish Deputy Prime Minister Mona Sahlin is the clear favourite to succeed Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, who has said he will resign next March, according to an opinion poll published on Monday.

The poll, in the newspaper Svenska Dagbladet, gave Ms. Sahlin 49 per cent backing among supporters of the ruling Social Democratic Party (SDP), which will decide on the new prime minister at a special congress next March

Ms. Sahlin is a controversial, blunt-speaking figure who has the support of the youth and women's sections of the SDP although her support has faded since the party formed a minority government after elections last March.

Coordination Minister Jan Nygren was in second place in the poll, with 19 per cent support. Agriculture Minister Margareta .Winberg, another likely candidate, won 11 per cent of support in the poll, carried out over the weekend. Mr. Carisson, 60, announced on Friday that he was exhausted after more than 25 years in politics and wanted to retire.

Kurt Cobain, who committed suicide in April 1994.

body shuns call forAustralian boycott JAKARTA (AFP) way of life and people who Indonesia's leading business honour very much the flag, group does not support calls but on the other hand we say for a boycott of Australian that we should base our co-- imports in retaliation for a operation with Australia on series of flag-burnings last the trade and investment week, its chairman said activities," Mr. Bakrie said. Monday. A series of flag-burnings Chairman of the Indonein Australia by east Timor supporters which coincided

sian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)
Aburizal Bakrie said the growth of economic cooperation between Australia and Indonesia was more important than the import boycott threat initiated by the Indonesian Association

of Importers (GINSI). u. "I would like to see the economic cooperation with ... Australia grow and grow," ... Mr. Bakrie said.

Although it would be "business as usual", Mr. Bakrie hoped Australians would refrain from repeating the sort of flag-burning incidents seen recently.

"We hope that Australians will accept the Indonesian

have spirit of reconciliation АВЦ ЏА (AFP) — Presi-

Ni gerians to

dents Robert Mugabe of Ziml abwe and Yoweri Musi eveni of Uganda have urge i Nigerians to have a spirit of reconciliation in order to end their country's political instability. Mr. Mugabe made the

remariks here Sunday on behalf of the two heads of state at a dinner offered in their frondur by their host. Nigerian ruler General Sam Abacira. "I u rige you to use the spir-

it that propelled you in Liber is to solve the problems of Nigeria," said the Zimb: ibwean leader, recalling that the same spirit was neede d after his own country's var for independence. A new peace accord to

end Liberia's nearly sixyear caivil war was signed here o a Saturday night. The two presidents Mr. Mugal te and Mr. Museveni arrivec l here Sunday on a

24-hour working visit to Nigeria during which they were to discuss with General Abach a political instabili-ty in the West African coun-Mr. Minagabe said that they were no andated by other

African beads of state last month in Kampala to discuss these issues with the Nigerian leader, and said the Kampaia talks had been very fruit ful.
"We had excellent discus-

sions and did agree that indeed there is a way forward and that only through direct co ntact and in the spirit of to getherness can we find solutions to our prob-lems," MI 3. Mugabe said. The African leaders that

succeed," the president said.
When 14 imbabwe was

economies.

be bad for business. southeast coast declares Political analysts said the independence. congress, to be attended by some 2,500 delegates, Missile tests, which China has conducted in the sea promised some impassioned "All the methods communorth of this island twice debate between those who since late July, have served support Mr. Lee's defiant to underline China's military stand on China and those threat and polarise political who want to restore some opinion in Taiwan. harmony. At one end of the spectrum The only-Nationalist Party

cooks 'en CLEVELAND There could species of inter-Gene While find them possibilities. student says, h in its

ing about sie hina's ities. He mea eating E O that study of iner field of study at versity in Wa Indiana. But an to billion avocation is eating insect March 由 9.8 look at and to id and know about the bnical I'll take a bie y anything," Says n minformer erated White and his t Dt to bug recipes to nclear hina's Small apons self-

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(AFP)-A 104 her three-year SS ate, the 1's top Serious condin Control Li-An, veek to bid on æ relapd. ire was nation-

VISIODS party's Lee to r unity shooting for railway.

Dog arrest LONDON (AF police have at for killing at holding it in of Army ing a ruling on a le and cials said Mont three-year-old bitch, was grin after doing what

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moggy. Under ous dogs at clamp down pitt bulls and police call at which cause humans — 10 t dead feline's 0 police said that lady whose call shock, that me vedish suffered and Mona Trevor Cooper nie w disgruntled. Ingvar e will O'Brien. gerous dos ording would have to a person on seized the do They had no to c Ms. her at all, ero

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World News



A rescuer along with dead bodies near the wrekage of the passenger trains after collision in north Indian Firozobad

Death toll exceeds 300 in India's worst train accident

FIROZABAD, India (AP) - rescuers with cranes and blow torches sliced through the head the tangled remains of two over a video g passenger trains Monday while police searched for the murder, police, signalman blamed for the The boy me worst train wreck in India's surgery and a history.

At least 300 passengers the incident h, died and 500 others were occurred when injured Sunday when the were left along Puroshottam, express girl. whose my rammed the Kalindi express withheld bear outside Firozabad railway shot the child; station in northern India.

The Kalindi express had brother and a stopped on the tracks after old course hitting a cow and damaging with the gas its brakes. A signalman gave the crowded Purshottam a arguing on its green light to continue down miles north of Firozapao.

After the man the same line, officials for, Subodia Rumar Luptarian to a remain india's scare owned railway it who was stapping near the but first till at the same line, officials for, and the stapping near the but first till at the same owned railway it who was stapping near the but first till at the same owned on the track,

Police were looking for the their fathe signalman today. He vanlater recand ished after the disaster at was afraid 112 2:45 a.m., just 15 minutes because he is after he came on duty.

beat her Ser "It is definitely human with anempels negligence of the railway children's new staff," said M.N. Chopra, a about an low divisional manager of the

cruise and ite Rescuers searched for the home of it more victims today, using parents cost: blow torches to cut through with negligent the train wreckage. Corpses were laid in rows in a muddy

field nearby.

"The entire area was reverberating with cries and shricks," said Manas Patnaik, 29, who was travelling from the eastern state of Orissa to New Delhi on the Puroshottam express.

"I stumbled several times on severed limbs and some people — I don't know whether they were sleeping or dead," Mr. Patnaik told the United News of India news agency.

Between the two trains there were about 2,200 passengers, most of whom were sleeping when the collision occurred. Both trains were

when it stopped on the track, said he saw the other train approaching, but thought it was on another track.

"The next thing I knew, I was crushed under a seat and the coach had overturned," he said from his bed at the Sarojini Naidu Hospital. stroking the cast on his left shoulder.

By Monday afternoon, Mr. Chopra said 275 bodies had been recovered from the wreckage. News agencies

reported dozens more people died in hospitals of their injuries. Doctors and relief workers said at least 500 people were hospitalised with injuries and hundreds more were treated for cuts

"Every time we pick something up, there's a body underneath it," Mr. Chopra

and sent home,

Press Trust of India news agency put the death toll at 350, but an army officer supervising the rescue oper-ations said on condition of anonymity that the toll could be as high as 400 when all the cars are removed from the tracks.

The foll was the highest in he Indian railroads 4142. year history, surpassing they 270 people killed when a ed into a river in 1981, said P.K. Bandhopadhya, the spokesman for the railway ministry in New

The people killed in Sunday's accident included 22 teen-age athletes returning from a training camp, and dozens of soldiers travelling with their regiments.

Two cranes untangled the 13 coaches that were crushed or jack-knifed off the track. Wreckage was scattered for 500 yards on either side of the rails, a few hundred yards from the railway station of this industrial

Bodies were stretched out in rows in loosely tied bed sheets from the sleeper cars, then taken to a makeshift morgue in a large hall in town. Detached limbs and human debris were collected in plastic bags. Some relatives said the wallets and purses of the victims had been robbed of all the money they were carrying.

In New Delhi, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao expressed sorrow over the deaths and directed a senior government minister to supervise rescue operations. Daniameni lawmak ers criticised the government Monday for not following the safety recommendations of committees that probed previous train crashes.

Nearly 17 million Indians travel by intercity rail every

It is the primary means of long distance transportation in a country where roads are poor and air travel is too expensive for most citizens.

World court says NZ files case against France

THE HAGUE (R) -- New Zealand, in a bid to block France's planned nuclear tests in the South Pacific, on Monday asked the International Court of Justice to reexamine a 1974 nuclear test case against France, a court official said.

New Zealand has said it would seek an interim injunction to stop the series of up to eight underground blasts at Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia.

The court official con-firmed New Zealand was attempting to reopen legal action, filed in 1973, against

French testing.
"New Zealand has submitted a request for an examination of the situation in accordance with paragraph 63 of the court's judgment of December 20, 1974, in the nuclear test case (New Zealand versus France)," a court official told Reuters by

The official said New Zealand viewed the request as a resumption of the previ-

ous case. Paragraph 63 of the 1974

judgment reads; "Once the court has found that a state has entered into a commitment concerning its future conduct, it is not the court's function to contemplate that it will not comply with it. However, the court observes that if the basis of this judgconduct in paragraph 63 of ment were to be affected, the judgment applicant could request an examination of the situation in accordance with the

New Zealand and Australia filed proceedings against France over atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in 1973.

The world court's 1974 judgment found that the applications had no object, since France had refused to appear at public hearings or file any pleas because it considered that the U.N. legal body lacked jurisdiction. But the court also noted in

its judgment that the objective of New Zealand and Australia had been achieved, since France had, in various public

announced its intention not to carry out any further

atmospheric nuclear tests. As France subsequently withdrew its recognition of the court, the only legal option left to New Zealand is to try to reopen the old case, with specific reference to the commitment on future

In a further bid to block the tests, a group of Euro-pean parliamentarians on Monday said they had signed a declaration calling for a commission of enquiry to decide whether France was taking adequate measures to protect the population of French Polynesia

from radiation. Paul Lannoye, a member of the Ecolo party in the European Parliament, said that 169 of its 626 deputies - from all groupings in the parliament except the French Gaullists signed the declaration.

Car blast outside French embassy in Oslo

In Oslo, a Norwegian

up a French Citroen ca**r out**: side the French embassy in Oslo on Monday as a protestagainst France's planned resumption of nuclear tests, the group said Monday.

The Miljoevernforbundet (environmental protection group) said it exploded the vehicle as part of its campaign to boycott French. products until Paris reverses. its decision to resume nuclear testing in French, Polynesia beginning nexts

Monday's action, which had been approved by Oslo. police, was carried out in a controlled environment with, explosives experts on hande Only the car was damaged:

However, the explosion was powerful enough to. cause embassy workers to. look on in concern from their windows.

We're also considering actions against car salesmen who sell French cars," Miljoevernforbundet leader.

Russians recapture police station seized by Chechen fighters

MOSCOW (R) - Russian troops backed by artillery and helicopters on Monday recaptured a police station in the central Chechen town of Argun from rebels who had seized the building on Sun-day night, ITAR-TASS news agency reported.

The agency quoted a military spokesman as saying: operation...lannched...to lib erate Argun from Checker rebels has been successfully

completed." TASS quoted Russian military officials as saying the decision to storm the building was taken after Chechen

officials had failed to persuade 250 rebels inside to surrender. The agency had earlier quoted chief Chechen spokesman

Movladi Udugov as saying the fighters were willing to lay down their arms and leave the building in Argun, just to the east of the regional capital

The rebels had released four policemen they were holding hostage. The crisis seems likely to

deal another blow to the fragile peace process in Chechnya, rocked by eight months of conflict. Both sides signed a mili-

tary accord July 30 to end the fighting but now accuse the other of trying to undermine it.

I am sorry this all hap-

pened on the eve of a possible resumption of talks. chief Chechen negotiator Khozhakhmed Yerikhanov told TASS before the Russian attack.

Interfax news agency said troops shelled rebel positions around the station as helicopters circled the town. "The Russians are firing kalashnikovs (assault rifles) and occasionally tank guns towards the police headquar-

ters," Reuters television

cameraman Dima Madorsky

reported from Argun. The town is covered in smoke. People are running away from the centre," Mr. Madorsky added.

Field commander Alaudi Khamzatov, in charge of the rebel group, earlier told Reuters he was doing nothing wrong.
"I've been appointed mil-

itary commander of Argun by (Chechen rebel leader) Zhokhar Dudayev and I'm doing my duty," he said. "I have come bome and I am not going to leave.

Interfax quoted Khamzatov as saying: "We are ready to die. A man who has lost everything is afraid of nothing."

The agency said some civilians had died when the rebels took the building on Sunday night. Mr. Dudayev was quoted on Sunday as saying he wanted a peaceful

solution to the conflict. Russian officials said Mr. Khamzatov was an associate

of Chechen commander Shamil Basayev, whose menstormed a hospital in the southern Russian town of Budennovsk in June and. took hundreds of hostages. More than 120 people died in the stand-off.

As part of an agreement to end that crisis, the two sides began the peace talks which led to the July 30 deal,

Under the agreement, the Chechens agreed to disarm in peturo-for the pagial withdrawal of Russian troops. But the process has been hampered by mutual distrest and continued clashes.

The accord was meant to pave the way for a political settlement to the conflict, including the tricky issue of the future status of the region which declared independence in 1991.

Moscow has ruled out letting the region secede, saying that would threaten the integrity of the Russian Fed-

38 women killed in fire after escape bid from Korean reform institute

SEOUL (AFP) — Thirty-eight woman, trapped behind bars, died in an inferno on Monday after prostitutes and teenaged runaways torched a faillike reform home near Seoul in a desperate escape bid, police and news reports said.

The pre-dawn blaze at the church-run Kyonggi Women's Institute in an isolated area, 30 kilometres south of Seoul, also left 24 other women badly injured. Firemen rescued

The fire tore through the two-storey home, trap-ping many of its 138 inmates who had been asleep behind barred windows and locked doors, police said.

showed Television charred bodies stacked in a second-floor common bathroom of the brick and cement building, which housed young prostitutes and runaways, mostly

"I lost conscionsness, sruggling among dozens of screaming girls trying to tear the bars off the windows," a 15-year-old survivor told newspapers. "There was no freedom

there. They just tried to

get away," she added,

explaining the escape attempt. Most of the victims choked to death, police said, adding that 14 inmates were held in custody for questioning and five had confessed to setthe escape attempt. Police also questioned supervisors at the institute to try to verify allegations that the inmates had been handcuffed and beaten. The girls at the home,

sent there by police without being convicted of any offence, were confined for an average of 10 months and taught sewing, cooking, hair-dressing and domestic sciences under a social "rebirth" programme, Police said the blaze had

been started by some 20 inmates who tried to escape after beating up 56-year-old supervisor, overnight Park Yong-Hee, in an act of "premeditated arson." Witnesses said the

would-be escapces stacked bed covers in six of the 30 rooms and set them ablaze simultaneously as the supervisor was wrapped up in a blanket and beaten by inmates.

Seven escaped through caught later, television said.

The blaze raged unchecked for two hours, completely gutting the building, KBS television said. Hundreds of firemen and police were rushed to the scene, but their efforts were hampered by toxic smoke and the locked

doors, it said. "Desperation seems to have been the motive. They had no freedom," ting their rooms alight in ... firefighter Hoe Se-Chang widely condoned.

A similar fire broke out in the government-funded institute last year, leading to the arrest of seven inmates who had complained of beatings and mairreatment

The immates were subject to strict reform therapy, watched by dozens of guards and supervisors. Supervisors denied human rights violations,

but television quoted witnesses as saying that "vio-lators of rules" had been beaten and confined like prison inmates. "A 42-year-old woman was sent out last year

because of mental derangement caused by beatings," an unnamed former inmatch was quoted as saying. Television footage showed parents and relatives of the inmates, seeking news of their daugh-

ing with police after being denied entry to the build-The Kyonggi Institute was one of South Korea's two main reform houses

ters, screaming and fight-

for prostitutes. A major home which once housed 1,700 prostitutes in the capital was closed last year following controversy over human rights violations. Prostitution is illegal here but is

France denies reports that it supplied arms for Rwandan massacres

PARIS (AFP) - The French government on Monday denied reports that it continued supplying arms to Hum forces after the start of massacrés of hundreds of thousands of Tutsis there last

foreign spokesman said Paris had fully complied with an accord signed between the warring Rwandan factions in Arusha, Tanzania in August 1993, banning all weapons sales to them.

Reports by the British Broadcasting Corporation and the Belgian private television station RTL Sunday accused France of complicity before and during massacres of minority Tutsis by the Hum majority in Rwanda in 1994.

But ministry spokesman Yves Doutrianx said Paris "stopped all arms supplies to Rwanda in compliance with the Arusha accord signed on August 4, 1993 between the Rwandan belligerants. "France has completely complied with the terms of

this accord," he said, adding that "no arms were supplied by France in april 1994 to the Rwandan government." The BBC report, entitled

the bloody tricolour and based on interviews with politicians, relief agency French complicity began with the deployment of troops in Rwanda in 1990.

The RTL report cited Colonel Luc Marchal, a Belgian member of the U.N. assistance mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) as saying that arms had arrived on board a French plane April 9, 1994, just three days after then Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana perished in a plane crash and extremist Hutu soldiers and militias began their orgy of killing.

Mr. Doutriaux said France had signed a military accord with Rwanda in 1975, as it had with a number of African countries. "In the France supplied instructors to train army and police offi-

cers," he said. Mr. Doutriaux added that both Britain Belgium had sent troops in October 1990 to "protect Western nationals in Rwanda, who numbered about 5,000 at the time."

Referring to specific charges made in the BBC programme, he said that French troops sent in 1991 to Ruhengeri in northwest Rwanda "were deployed to evacuate Western nationals and not to interfere in the

He also denied France acted as a country of asylumfor alleged perpetrators of the Rwandan genocide. In this context he referred! specifically to Rwandam: priest Wenceslas Muayeshyaka who has been charged in France with

genocide. The ministry spokesmen added that France was developing its relations with the new Rwandan regime, in: particular helping to strengthen the African country's judicial system, afterconcern expressed by rights groups such as Amnesty. civil war as mentioned in the

Sri Lanka fighting leaves 13 dead

COLOMBO (Agencies) --The Tamil Tiger guerrillas ambushed an army patrol in north-eastern Sri Lanka Monday, killing one soldier for the loss of at least 12 of their own fighters, local officials said.

Gunmen of the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) attacked patrolling soldiers at Veerancholai in the Trincomalee district, triggering a heavy gun-battle, officials said. One soldier was killed

and three others were

wounded in the first round

of fighting. Shortly after that

the troops retaliated and by

Monday morning recovered

the bodies of 12 rebels killed

by them," a military official said.

The fighting came as suspected LTTE gunmen hijacked 35 bullock carts belonging to Muslim villagers who had ventured into a jungle at Puvarasantivu, officials said.

"The villagers detained by the LTTE for a few hours and later released minus their bullock carts.' the official said. The LTTE is leading a protracted campaign to estab-

lish an independent homeland for Sri Lanka's Tamil minority of two million which is concentrated in the northern and eastern

2 Karachi policemen shot dead in ambush by militants

KARACHI (AFP) Unidentified gunmen shot two policemen dead and injured another in an ambush Monday, while three civilians were gunned down by sniper fire in the violence-plagued Pakistani port city, police said.

The policemen were attacked while patrolling the streets on motorbikes. "The gunmen sprayed bullets on them from a car," a witness said. Three civilians were also injured in the attack.

The wounded constable was said to be in critical condition in hospital. Two civilians were reported killed in sniper shooting,

of another was found. Officials and residents said the security forces launched a house-to-house search for acms and militants monday in the eastern neighbourhood called Lines Area, after cordoning it off.

Hundreds of people were taken away in trucks for questioning, an official said. Residents said sporadic firing occurred in suburban Orangi township, where a vehicle was set ablaze.

Orangi has been tense since the killing by police there of two activists of Karachi's main opposition group, Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), on Sun-

Karachi's large Urdu-speaking community made up of immigrants who arrived from India after the 1947 partition of the sub-conti-

The party is locked in a tussle with the government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto over alleged discrimination against the immigrants.1

More than 1,300 people have been killed this year in the strife-torn city, where thousands of paramilitary troops are currently involved in a crackdown against mom militants.

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Serving cause of women

IN A BID to make the exercise surrounding the upcoming world conference on women in Beijing more meaningful and fruitful, several international and regional reports on women rights have been prepared and promulgated. Because the Beijing meeting is not the first of its kind and many attempts have been made already to improve the lot of women worldwide but with little noticeable results, every effort should be made this time to make the new exercise more successful. As far back as 1975 when the international community held a mammoth conference on women rights in New Mexico City the community of nations has been busy articulating and adopting new guidelines to diminish discrimination against women in all walks of life. The New Mexico meeting was followed by another one in Copenhagen and a third one in Nairobi ten years ago. In spite of all these endeavours and other attempts by a number of regional and international fora, however, the plight of women remains essentially the same with only modest gains registered at times.

The latest report of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the issue summed up the situation when it concluded that there was hardly a nation in the world where women were treated equally with men. Even in the most advanced countries in this field, the struggle for equality still has a long way to go before it attains its objectives. The Arab World fares very poorly on the scale of countries which accord women political and economic rights with Morocco and Algeria ranking only 85th and 87th respectively and the rest of the Arab states lagging much more behind. In this vein, women's earnings are generally 30-40 per cent less than men even in the most progressive states and their participation in the political life of their countries is at its best in the Scandinavian states where it four per cent in the Arab World.

Since the unequal treatment of women persists on a global scale and assumes ominous proportions in the Arab countries, we would like our concerned authorities to share with us their thoughts on the long agenda of the Beijing conference and their submissions on its principal items. We certainly cannot be proud of our record on women's participation in public life judging by their near non-representation in politics or business. Nor can we be happy about the mistreatment of women in terms of unequal pay for equal work. Of course we have not even scratched the surface when it comes to other manifestations of discrimination against women in other socio-economic areas. Suffice it to cite that women do not stand on equal footing with men on citizenship rights and individual freedoms. Crimes committed in the name of "honour" continue to plague our lives and cast a dark shadow on where women really stand in Arab

There is not much time left before our governmental and non-governmental delegations proceed to the Chinese capital. Jordanians have yet to be involved in full in shaping official and non-official stands on the agenda of that important meeting.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily criticised the Palestine National Authority (PNA) for what he described as repressive acts against the Palestinian people and the media. Sultan Al Hattab said that the closure of Al Quds newspaper was the latest such incident in a long chain of repressive measures intended to stifle the voice of truth. Under the PNA rule, or through its influence, writers were jailed, newspapers closed and journalists banned from writing or reporting, said the writer. People living in Palestine are at a loss, and wonder which is more repressive: the rule of the Zionists or the PNA, which the writer said has been acting as security forces for the Jewish state. Demanding that all forms of repression against the Palestinians stop, the writer said that the PNA should realise that such actions can by no means serve the PNA itself, and neither can it help realise the Palestinian dream of freedom come true. The mass arrests the storming of homes and other mal-practices are not what the Palestinian people had sought through their long struggle for freedom, said the writer. He said that what disappointed the Arab masses most was the silence of the leading PNA figures over such mal-practices that have frustrated the hopes of the majority of the Palestinian people.

A WRITER in Al Dustour said that he pitied the government whose efforts are currently directly towards crafting an opportune atmosphere for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) summit in October to achieve success because these efforts are drowned and completely overshadowed by the American war preparations in our region. Taher Al Adwan said that through its actions and propaganda campaigns against Iraq and through its military moves in the region the United States is running all chances for any investments in our region and subsequently any hopes for a permanent peace and security and stability.

The View from Fourth Circle

August 1990, August 1995 and the diplomatic full moon

THE CONSIDERABLE and very creative international press coverage of the asylum in Jordan of some prominent Iraqis led by General Hussein Kamel Hassan raises important questions about the real issues at stake in this episode. Since the tale is still being played out, we will have to wait for some of its ambiguities to be clarified and for its true significance to become clear. In the meantime, several questions and observations suuggest themselves:

1. What is the real position of Jordan on the Americanled desire to change the regime in Iraq? Conflicting signals have emanated from Amman since the start of the affair, with some statements to the press and symbols (notably the press conference at the Royal Court) hinting that Jordan would like to see a change in the Baghdad regime, and other statements and symbols (notably the prime minister's speedy consultation with Parliament) suggesting that Jordan will not interfere in Iraq's internal affairs. Mixed signals from Amman are either a highly sophisticated form of diplomatic navigation, or a sign of our daring but difficult desire simultaneously to serve two strategic goals: friendship, national affinity and economic gains from Iraq, and friendship, ideological affinity and economic gains from the United States.

2. Is this matter really about who rules Iraq or about with whom Jordan is allied? The extensive international media coverage has included a strong sub-theme about Jordan's realignment in the regional political landscape — allegedly away from Iraq, and towards the U.S., Israel, Saudi Arabia and pals. This is intriguing and, if true, important; but is it real or only imagined? Is it a fact of Middle Eastern

geopolitics, or an American fantasy? 3. Is this, in fact, the last battle of the Gulf war, fought in political rather than military terms? Jordan's principled opposition to foreign militarism as the solution to inter-Arab conflicts was correct in 1990 and it remains correct today. It is not surprising to see Washington get excited about the possible downfall of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's regime, a goal towards which it has worked unsuccessfully for half a decade. Most Jordanians and Arabs share Western objection to, and even revulsion with, the brand of militaristic governance practised in Iraq today.

That is not the question this week. The question this week is: How does an unacceptable. violent Arab regime transform into something better and more humane? If foreign military intervention was inappropriate for resolving inter-Arab conflicts, is foreign political pressure also inappropriate for resolving domestic Arab governance issues? The answer must be an emphatic yes; because if we agree to play Washington's game of forcing changes in the Baghdad regime today, where will we be able to draw the line when Washington decides it would like to change the regimes of other Arab states that

The Gulf war was not only about assuring the sovereignty of Kuwait; it was also about assuring the hegemonic interests of the United States in the Middle East — the effective American recolonisation of the Middle East, a century after the original French-British colonisation of the region. Jordan resisted that American objective somewhat in 1990/91, and we were severely punished for it through economic pressures and political quarantine. This week, we notice a pronounced American change in attitude to Jordan, with pledges of protection and support against Iraqi threats that are magically notable for being more visible in Washington than in Amman. Is Jordan being 'rehabilitated" in American eyes for our crime of not riding the Gulf war bandwagon? Is the real prize in this affair really a change in regime in Baghdad, or a change in

4. Is it seriously considered in Washington and elsewhere that Hussein Kamel Hassan could be a suitable new leader of Iraq? If so - given his long track record of involvement in domestic and regional activities that Washington has suggested as being sufficient grounds for trials for "crimes against humanity" — what does this tell us about the seriousness of the international talk about holding people responsible for their past deeds? The message from this line of thinking is that any person who has been involved in regimes that systematically use violence can wipe away his or her past simply by changing sides and officially adopting Washington's ideological and moral flavour of the month.

5. How much official Jordanian thinking, if any, is reflected in the remarks of an unnamed "former political advisor to the King" who was quoted in the New York Times on August 17 as saying: "It is nice to be loved by the Americans. We need the American embrace to impress the Israelis and the Arabs. It helps in the quest to improve our image in the region, so what's wrong with that?"

The nature and consequences of "the American

embrace" are really at the heart of this question for Jordan, and this is deeply reflected in the rather spontaneous, widespread expressions of unease in Jordan at the thought of our being used by the United States to pressure Iraq. If we are even perceived to be serving American diplomatic goals in Iraq at the expense of our pan-Arab sentiments and obligations, at a time when we already experience significant domestic debate about our policy towards Israel, we could find ourselves caught in an increasingly fierce ideological debate that would result in deep domestic

6. The situation in which we find ourselves is very challenging in terms of political morality. We are somewhat Precisely because there is a greater inclination among others to throw caution and reason to the wind and to jump onto any available bandwagon that promises a free ride and possible salvation, we in Jordan should resist the urge to seek sustenance or redemption in ideological bondage to either of the crazed camps that tempt us.

torn between two powerful forces: The instinctive understanding that our long-term, future well-being depends upon good relations with our large Arab hinterland, and the immediate desire to strengthen our economy by forging closer ties with Israel, the United States, Saudi Arabia and associated powerful ideologues and economies. Our national interest requires that we strike a difficult balance, one that simultaneously safeguards our moral and economic well-being, that generates an honourable balance of dignity and dollars. We were unable, or not allowed, to achieve that balance in the Gulf war five years ago.

Today, essentially the same actors are involved in yet another regional geo-political tug-of-war, but with several important differences from 1990: Almost all the principal actors are suffering severe economic stress today, most are feeling strong pressures for political change, and Jordan finds itself as much a prize as an actor in this new Arabian drama. August 1995 and August 1990 are rather similar in most ways for the Middle East, except for the fact that the poverty and panic factors are greater all around.

Precisely because there is a greater inclination among others to throw caution and reason to the wind and to jump onto any available bandwagon that promises a free ride and possible salvation, we in Jordan should resist the urge to seek sustenance or redemption in ideological bondage to either of the crazed camps that tempt us. We would do well to ponder again the lessons of 1990, and to work harder this time to affirm the humane, balanced, rational principles that have always made Jordanian statehood such an impressive and honourable - and Arab - enterprise. Just because the principal actors of this game are frenzied and hysterical beasts, we do not have to howl or froth with them at this moment of the diplomatic full moon.

Revelations about Israel's murder of PoWs shatter myth of purity

By Michael Jansen

ISRAEL IS experiencing. once again, a bout of soul searching over the behaviour of its armed forces. This time it is allegations that its army executed disarmed Arab prisoners in virtually all of the wars fought by the Jewish state since its establishment in 1948; allegations that will certainly harm its relations with all its Arab neighbours in the present period of peacemaking and normalisation of relations.

Most of the soul searching is being done by liberal, leftist Israelis who cling to a collection of myths spun by Israeli ideologues and policy makers with the aim of creating the illusion that "Israel is a state like no other," a state born "pure and sinless," a state with a "moral basis." For Israelis, this illusion has been essential, existential, even on both the international and internal levels.

On the external level, the Western powers who sup-ported the Jewish colonisation effort in Palestine and the eventual occupation of this country by force, had to be encouraged to continue their backing and to underwrite the alien state thrust into the Arab homeland. Thus, Israel had to forge its moral credentials by creating an illusion of sinlessness," although the Jewish state was created - like the Boer state in South Africa, the U.S. in North America, most of the Latin states in South America and, at present, the Serb state in Bosnia — by the brutal ethnic cleansing of the native population. In the Israeli case, ethnic cleansing was a matter of both policy and practice produced by necessity and racism; necessity because a Jewish state could not be built on land populated by another people and racism because these "others" had to be dehumanised before they were expelled. Once ethnic cleansing was accepted, the killing of prisoners became standard practice. Thus, Israel's enemies became people to be either dispersed, like the Palestinians, or disposed of, like Egyptian or other Arab soldiers who became caught up in Israel's wars of con-

In Israel, however, a great deal of trouble was taken to conceal both the adopted by the military forces of the Jewish state. Records were kept under wraps, history was rewritten and journalists and researchers who turned up unwanted information were accused of treachery and, in the case of foreigners, "anti-Semites," imbued with anti-Jewish racial pre-

ing leveled at Israel by the Palestinians and Arabs are all true. On the internal plane, the Zionist-Israeli leadership had to convince its own people that the new state was something "uni-que" and "special," particularly in the early years of considerable financial stringency and physical hardship. The Israelis had to be charged with a "pioneering spirit" compa-rable to that of the pioneers

who pushed westward in

America in accordance with

the "manifest destiny" of

the white European settlers

judice. Only recently have

Israeli scholars, who had

access to Israeli records of

the period, revealed that

the charges of ethnic cleans-

in the new world. One of the duties of the pre-state Zionist settlers and later Israeli citizens was service in the military forces of the community and state. These forces were always considered the "selfdefence" or "defence" forces, not an army. The armed forces became the main state institution in Israel, dominating every other sphere of activity, and, in a sense, militarising the society through the callup which incorporates

one or other armed service. The combined armed forces of the Israeli state were called the "Israel Defence Force" (IDF). although Israel has fought four wars of aggression and one war of self-defence (1973) during its 47 year history. This fact, however, was never admitted until Israel attacked Lebanon in June 1982, when the then prime minister Menachem Begin stated that all of Israel's previous wars with the exception of 1973 were "initiated" or "preemptive" wars. That means wars of aggression

almost all Israeli youth into

against its neighbours. This revelation, made at a military college, stunned the Israeli establishment and created and uproar in the media. But the uproar soon died down and the military maintained its image as a 'defence" force.

The military, throughout

Israel's brief history, has always been above critic-"sacrosanct," "untouchable," protected by strict state censorship and the self-censorship exercised by its own cadres and the public. The IDF doctrine, which has protected the force, has been that of the "purity of arms," of fighting cleanly only in selfdefence, of treating enemy soldiers and civilians according to the rules of war honourably. This doctrine was effective in creating the honest, honourable self-image of the Israeli citizen soldier and his admirable image in the eyes of Israel's external supporters. But it was a deeply flawed image, an illusion, because Israel's citizen soldiers were no better than and perhaps even, in some case, much worse their counterparts from other countries. But until recently, Israel and the IDF man-

aged to cover up that fact. The IDF rarely submitted itself to external inquiries (one of the exceptions being the Kahane Commission, which investigated the Sabra-Shatila massacres in 1982) and kept to itself most of its internal squabbles (although these broke the surface of Israeli public life in 1983 when the generals blamed each other for Israel's failure to predict the combined Arab attack which launched the Octo-

Thus, Israelis have not often been treated to the spectacle of the IDF "letting itself down," as did the French army in its bloody repression of Algerian freedom fighters and the U.S. army fighting in Vietnam. The IDF only came under public scrutiny, by way of the media, during Israel's bombardment of Beirut in 1982 and during its iron fist repression of the intifada, when the present Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin ordered troops to break the limbs of Palestinian protesters. And Israelis have con-

sidered these investigations

exceptional into IDF conhaviour, from its dogma of "purity of arms."

But several years ago Benny Morris, an historian who has examined the mythmaking of the founders of the Jewish state, exposed Israel as an "ethnic cleanser" of Palestinians during its war of establishment. And now, former military men have described how they and their men killed Egyptian prisoners of war during the 1967 campaigns, while others (and historians) have revealed that the IDF killed Palestinian and Syrian prisoners during the 1982 Lebanon invasion. There is no doubt that the Israel "defence" forces also murdered Jordanian and Syrian prisoners during other engagements, since, according to the Israeli military historian Michael Bar-Zohar, the elimination of prisoners was "tolerated" in all of Israel's wars; and, according to the officers now speaking to the press, a matter of policy in some circumstances. This should come as no

surprise to Israel's neighbours, subjected to indiscriminate and not-soindiscriminate Israeli attacks on and bombardments of Arab civilian targets over the past 47 years, leading to hundreds of thousands of civilian casualties. But for Israelis, wrapped in the cotton wool of the myths, the impurity of IDF practice has come as a shock. Former defence minister Ariel Sharon, the man responsible for the destruction of the village of Samu' and the bombardment of the open city of Beirut, called this debate of war crimes "a kind of national suicide" while Prime Minister Rabin, the commander who ordered the Palestinians to be driven out of Lydda and Ramleh, agreed.

Benny Morris has welcomed the recent revelations on the ground that Israelis are now willing to accept that they live in a "normal country with normal people" and they act the same as others in war, that is "viciously." But Israel is not a normal country with normal people.

Faulty economic policies

By Dr. Yusuf Mansur economic circumstances?

THE MINISTRY of Fi-Parliament seven draft changes to the existing tax laws: A general sales tax adjustment law that would raise the sales tax rate from 7 per cent to 10 per cent; an income tax law that would reduces the income tax of corporations and investors; and an investment law that is supposed to encourage the flow of investments to Jordan. In justifying these proposed changes to the law, the ministry stated: "It has become necessary to review the different facets of the existing Jordanian tax system in order to stimulate savings, encourage investment, and reduce consumption and thus increase self-reliance within the frames dictated by the Constitution." The ministry went on to state that "among the most important of these frames are: 1) the progression of the tax burden; 2) the establishment of social justice and equality; and 3) the recognition of the taxpayers' ability to pay. "(Al Dustour Newspaper, July 25 25, 1995).

After having read the draft general sales tax law, I came to the conclusion that once again rhetoric has no founding in reality. The intent of the law and the actual law itself were contradictory to say the least. For those who wish to ponder contradictions, I have put together the following There is a golden rule

that is agreed upon by all schools of economic thought (not an easy task): Do not raise taxes in times of recession. Jordan is in the midst of an economic recession: The official unemployment rate is 17 per cent and productivity is lower than it was 25 years ago. A sales tax is a tax like any other tax (and maybe worse than some as I will demonstrate later) in that it reduces the disposable income of the citizenry thereby lessening their ability to save, and 2) it is a source of domestic income to the government.

If the payment of taxes reduces a citizens' ability to save, contrary to the ministry's stated goals, why are we planning to increase the sales tax rather than reducing it in light of present

This tax can lead to increasing price levels (inflation). Although the Ministry of nance recently put before Finance has sought to counter this effect by withcirculation, inflationary pressure will increase. If inflation does occur then we will have the worst of all worlds - stagflation, unemployment with inflation, in which case an increase in the income tax rates would be preferable to an increase in the sales tax because the income tax would only

affect employment. According to the Ministry of Finance, the sales tax is the ideal tool from whch it can be compensated for the decrease in tax revenue it would suffer as a result of proposed lowering of the income tax placed on corporations and investors. But a sales tax is a regressive tax in that it affects the poor more heavily than it does the wealthy. An increase in the sales tax contradicts points (1) and (2), that is, the goals of progressive tax costing and social equality mentioned in the Al Dustour article. These contradictions can be easily demonstrated by the following example.

Suppose we have two persons citizen 1 has a monthly income of 200 dinars and citizen 2 has a monthly income of 2000 dinars. Citizen 1's income level is close to the poverty line therefore he is poor. Citizen 2 makes in one month more than the per capita annual income of Jordan (1000 dinars per annum), therefore he is well off. Citizen 1 consumes all income; citizen 2consumers only 50 per cent of his income and saves the rest. Both citizens pay a sales tax of 10 per cent on everything they consume (buy/rent), so citizen 1 pays 20 dinars a month in sales tax while citizen 2 pays 100 dinars. If we divide the sales tax payment by the respective incomes of both citizens we realise that citizen 1, the poor citizen, paid 10 per cent of his income in sales tax and citizen 2, the well-off citizen, paid only 5 per cent of his income in sales tax.

The writer is professor of economics at Mu'ta University. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

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writer is profession to mices at Mu to the letter to the Jordan Tarks to the Jordan Ta

More suicides, stress show on Sarajevans

By Thomas Ginsberg The Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina - Anja Tomic started panicking the moment she thought about leaving Sarajevo. How would she live? Who would help her in the ontside

"When they opened the doors to the concentration camps after World War II, people just stood there without knowing where to go," said the 31-year-old Bosnian aid worker. "I think maybe I had the same

After facing Serb guns, physical deprivation and siege for three years, psychiatrists say some Sarajevans now may be suffering the same complexes borne by survivors of Nazi concentration camps.

Hospitals are reporting the highest rate of suicide attempts since the siege began. The number of people being treated for chronic stress, or "Sarajevo syndrome," has risen 20 per cent in the last year, doctors

Even a flash of hope from Croatia's defeat of its Serbs in recent days gave way quickly to cynicism, as Sarajevans expected more refugees and new attempts

to carve up Bosnia, "People have been disappointed too many times," says. Dr. Zeljko Trogancie, deputy chief in the psychology ward at Sarajevo's main

hospital.
"The main reason is that nobody knows anymore when it all will end, where

this war is going."

Everyday, a few more people are killed or maimed by Serb snipers and shells. Fear of attack isolates people in their homes. Water, gas and electricity flow in-frequently. Occasional deliveries of humanitarian aid only underline the truth; Sarajevo is like a prison

With last spring's end of a year-long lull in fighting, residents — the best estimate is 280,000 people tend to head home quickly after runs for water and food. Under a blazing summer sun, their faces are pale from spending most of their time indoors.

Unfulfilled promises of Western military protection have done more than kill hope. They reaffirm isolation from the world, Dr. Trogancic says.

"I had a constant feeling like I don't belong with people outside," Ms. Tomic said of her first trip out of Sarajevo in two years, "It wasn't until I left that I realised that I'm not the same person I was,'

Before her short February trip to Geneva for a conference, Ms. Tomic was seized by panic.
"I had the feeling that I shouldn't be alone for even

five minutes because I would be completely lost, she says. "I was afraid of stepping onto the plane. ... Every little detail terrified me.'

Ms. Tomic's dismal existence is her only reality, and it is oddly comfortable. "I feel like I have two persons in me constantly,"

A CITY SUFFERING UNDER SIEGE: A Sarajevan boy talks with a U.N. soldier. Children in the city often approach U.N. troops in the hope of receiving some sweets and chocolate (AFP photo) she says. "One is fighting with complete body and mind against the war,

against grenades, against sniping, killing and blood. "And the other one is getting used to it, because I'd probably go crazy if I didn't partly get used to something, to accommo-

date to it. Kaz de Jong, a Dutch psychologist posted in Sarajevo with the international aid organisation Doc-

tors Without Borders, compares the reaction to the immobile silence that gripped some concentration camp victims on their day of liberation.

"I wouldn't be afraid to define (Sarajevo) as a con-centration camp," he says.

"Your actions are dictated continuously by somebody else. Your life is under threat continuously from shelling and sniping. Your physical conditions

like electricity, gas, water are at the whim of somebody else. Whether you get humanitarian aid or not is under the control of somebody else," Mr. De Jong

The only difference is obvically that you're not physically beaten here and there's no camp torture, no gas cham-

Few doubt that most Sarajevans — particularly young ones — would bolt from the city on liberation day. Indeed, a "brain drain" of talented professionals in the last year led the Bosnian government recently to bar anybody from leaving without hard-to-get exit papers.

But how people will cope with the dreamed-of liberation "is a big question

mark," Mr. De Jong says. Desperation has shown up in suicide statistics. After three years of war, hospital admissions for attempted suicide are rising, Dr. trogancic says.

"In the first two years, everybody's psychological energy was spent on surviving, on living," Dr. Trogan-

So far this year, his hospital has treated 20 cases of attempted suicide, the same number for all of 1994. Police do not release the number of successful suicides, which statistically

are thought to be about 10 per cent of attempts. "When there is no pow-

er, no water, when everyday needs for living are ir, short supply and there is shooting, then come the suicides," Dr. Trogancic

"The situation has larited too long," he says. "Right now, our biggest need is for surgeons. But after the war, the psychiatrists will have the big job."

U.S. peace plan for Bosnia in limbo

(Continued from page 1)

ilaterally an international arms embargo on Bosnia. . . the balance of power in the The U.S. delegation had un a tour of region capitals last week to present the new proposals when Frasure and the two other American envoys were killed.

President Bill Clilnton vowed to push ahead with the peace plan. But the tight timetable of talks has been pushed back by more than a week, threatening the momentum that had built up.

Mr. Holbrooke briefed Bosnian President Ilija Izetbegovic only fleetingly in a meeting after the ill-fated diplomats' vehicle plunged off a mountain road. He had to push back a scheduled second meeting with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, due

last Sunday, by eight days. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher broke off his holiday to start replacing the fallen members of the team and to meet the diplomats' remains when they ar-

rive in Washington. The deaths deprived Washington of key negotiators at a time when its plan was meeting a warmer reception than expected from U.S. allies and local leaders alike. Washington launched the initiative after the Croatian army recaptured a fifth of its

Egypt demands price

(Continued from page 12)

for PoW killing

stand to defuse public out-

lic's indignation and to defuse

an opposition campaign, the government will find itself

obliged to demand that Israel

pays war damages and offers

apologies." Talaat Mussal-

lam, a retired general and

Emad Gad, a specialist in

Israeli affairs at the centre of

political and strategic studies

at Al Ahram, said: "The

government will ask Israel for

an apology and compensa-

tion, but not the extradition

of the criminals to avoid a

bitter confrontation with

Opposition groups are

already demanding a break in

ties between Egypt and

Israel, which signed a peace

"At the very least we have

to chase out the Israeli spy

who calls himself ambassador

and demand the extradition

of the criminals to try them in

Egypt," the pro-Islamist pap-

treaty in 1979.

military expert, said.

Confronted with the pub-

rage, experts told AFP.

rebels, significantly changing

the killing and mass exoduses which have swept the former communist state of Yugoslavia since its violent break-up

in 1991. Diplomats have said Washington's plan concedes land to separatist Serbs in Bosnia, promises Serbia an end to economic sanctions if recognises its neighbours and threatens punishment for

A suggestion that the Bosnian government could trade the U.N. "safe area" of Gorazde, the only remaining Muslim pocket in eastern Bosnia, for land elsewhere

Yet Gorazde's future looks far from secure. Bosnian Serb shells killed three children there on Sunday without any U.N. response, despite a promise to protect the enclave by calling in North

the opinion of the U.N. com-mand, said on Monday: "One shell, no matter how lethal it is, does not constitute an attack against a U.N. "safe area" which would

er Al-Ahrar said.

prisoners.

Meanwhile, an Egyptian

lawyer, Ahmad Al Shami,

has begun legal proceedings in a bid to win \$100 million of

compensation from Mr.

Rabin for the families of the

"The government can't stand by idle. It knows that as

general elections draw closer

to November the opposition

will condemn the absence of

a strong official reaction in

the prisoners affair as a fai-

lure to stand up for the dignity of its citizens." Gad said.

The opposition could also

"If a poll was conducted

win more support for its re-

sistance to closer relations

today, 98 percent of Egyptians would be against nor-

malisation with Israel," Gad

An opinion poll published

in Al Ahram weekly in De-

cember showed that 63 per

cent of Egyptians refused to

visit Israel and 71 per cent

boycotted Israeli products.

with Israel, he said.

By John Madeley

ALEPPO, Syria --- Jan Valkoun has a mission to collect. But it is a mission with a difference. Each year he spends around six weeks of his time tramping through fields, remote countryside and aride areas of West Asia and North Africa, plucking wild plants out of

the ground. As he walks along, Dr. Valkoun's style is to pull up a single wild plant, usually of wheat, barley or related species, every 20 metres or so. At this stage, he has no idea what he is looking for

in a plant.

Jan Valkoun's walking habits may seem bizarre. But a lot is at stake. On his any faction which tries to wild plant collecting could scupper the package. depend nothing less than food supplies of the future. Dr. Valkoun is head of the genetic resources unit at

has been scrapped for now.

Atlantic Treaty Organisation

country's territory from Serb merit a response by NATO."

officials during his visit here. Asked whether U.S. offi-(NATO) air strikes. A U.N. spokesman, citing cials had asked to sit in on his meeting with Gen. Hassan,

ters that Mr. Ekeus informed him of the outcome of his visit to Iraq and the "positive attitude" of the Iraqi authorities in facilitating his mis-

Baghdad after the defection of Gen. Hassan, saying it would divulge to him informtion that it said the defector had hidden from the U.N.

Mr. Rawabdeh told repor-

Ekeus arrives for talks

(Continued from page 1)

the International Centre for

Agricultural Research in

the Dry Areas (ICARDA).

Based in Aleppo, northern

Syria, ICARDA is part of a

Mr. Ekeus said he was not in contact with anybody, stressing that he was acting under a mandate from the Security

Iraq invited Mr. Ekeus to

Baghdad media assail U.S.

(Continued from page 1) sisterly and neighbourly na-

Al Thawra also accused the United States on Monday of attempting to heighten ten-

sion in the Gulf.
"The U.S. is back, aggravating the situation, politically, militarily and media-wise against Iraq," declared the

It said U.S. claims that Iraq was moving troops near its borders "are absolutely empty and are not based on fact or reality." The U.S. has dispatched

aircraft carriers and troops to the Gulf region within striking distance of Iraq and brought forward the date of regular joint exercises with Kuwait to discourage what it termed as threatening movements by Iraqi forces.

At Thawra newspaper said Washington's talk of unusual movement of Iraqi troops exposed what it called the ignorance of the U.S. govern-

"The U.S. administration does not understand and is not willing to comprehend that the story of Iraq's massing troops towards Jordan is incredible. At home, Gen. Hassan's

defection seems to have had no visible effect. A halfsuggested she could have been holding a bomb. brother of President Saddam, said to have been killed in a Ghalya, 20, a resident of the family feud, appeared on West Bank village Bethany, state-television on Sunday. was summoned by police to Speaking from his hospital try to identify the woman's body, family members told bed and with a bandaged leg. the Associated Press. Miss

Watban Ibrahim Hassan denied reports that President Saddam's family was in dis-The unity of the family is solid and standing better than before. The incident of agent

Hussein Kamel rendered the

family more cohesive and

stronger than before," he Babel reported on Aug. 8 that Watban, dismissed in May from his post as interior minister, was shot in the legs

by accident the day before.

Jordan Times Tel: 667171

worldwide network of agri-cultural research stations which are trying to help. Third World to increase and sustain the output of basic food crops. One of ICARDA's roles in this scientific network is to improve the wheat, barley, lentils and faba beans (socalled "poor man's meat") which serve as the "daily bread" for millions in West

Asia and North Africa. But there is a huge problem. The population of the region is growing fast and land is becoming degraded. The demand for food is rising and scientists have to continually breed new varieties of crops. The old, genetically diverse varieties maintained by farmers over millenia are being replaced with improved but uniform varieties. "Our crops become genetically eroded"

the scientists say. At the

same time, agriculture is advancing into marginal habitats where the wild relatives of the crop plants live - the wild plants are lost. This is another form of genetic erosion. According to the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organisation, about three-quarters of the diversity of agricultural plants have been lost since

Scientists say that it is difficult to measure the exact loss of these plants, but that the pace is not slowing down. As the population grows and more farmland is taken over for housing, as people cultivate marginal land, and as too many sheep and goats graze the land, wild crops continue to decline.

The West Asia and North Africa region has the highest rate of population

(Continued from page 1)

ground with a lot of people

on top of me, screaming "let

us out of here," and crying,

...there was blood all over

Authorities identified two

of the victims as an Israeli

policeman and a 26-year-old

Israeli woman. A third victim was identified as an Amer-

ican tourist, but officials did

not release the name until

family members could be

not been identified by Mon-

day evening, and police were

investigating the possibility that one was the suicide bom-

ber. Jerusalem police chief

Arieh Amit said the condi-

tion of the woman's body

The father of Alia Abu

Abu Ghalya's relatives said

she had left home secretly

short after midnight and had

The leaflet issued on the Al

Quds Radio said the bombers

would remain anonymous but

used the masculine case in

who carried out Monday's

The attack came a day af-

ter Israel lifted a 10-day clo-

sure of the Palestinian-ruled

Gaza Strip, which had been

sealed because of fears of a

suicide attack. Following

Monday's attack, the army

closed off both the West

Bank and Gaza until further

notice," barring tens of

referring to the "martyr"

not returned."

attack.

The remaining bodies had

the place."

growth in the world, and this is putting severe pressure on land. "The loss of genetic diversity could be higher in this region than in any other," believes Jan Valkoun.

Wheat, barley, lentils and fruit trees originated in the region. "But the wild plants are losing their space," he sayd, "as nearly every piece of land is now

But why do we need this genetic diversity? Modern varieties are developed on experimental stations under optimum growth conditions. Research at ICAR-DA and elsewhere has shown that these varieties are not adapted to harsh environments; the wild relatives are.

To breed new varieties of crops, scientists "cross" existing varieties of plants with new lines. And this is

where the collecting activities of Jan Valkoun come in because adapted plants from the wild can be ideal for the "crossing."

When Dr. Valke turns with his collection, he examines each plant for its characteristics in the laboratory and in the field at ICARDA's experimental farm. What he is hoping to find are traits which are different to the plant varieties already held in ICARDA's "genebank."

But every now and again, Jan Valkoun's spirits soar as he sees a wild plant with different traits - because then he could be on to a winner. The wild plant could be crossed with an existing variety to breed a new variety that could help to feed the people of the region and beyond.

Dr. Valkoun stresses that not enough of the wild

plants have been ccillected, and that it is vital to gather as many of them as possible before they are destroyed. Their loss could be a catas-

The plants are vital for food supplies throughout the world, not just in West Asia and North Africa. For, ern world are rich in material terms, they are poor in wild plant diversity. The world's food supplies ultimately depend on the breeding and development of new crop varieties - and the raw material for this mostly in Third World countries.

Jan Valkoun is one of a small number of scientists throughout the world wha specialise in collecting wild plants. On their skills, a great deal depends. The millions who shop for bread and pasta may not know it but collecting wild plants is vital, if there is to be food to buy in the future.

ICARDA

Suicide blast kills four in Jerusalem



Ultra orthodox Jews from a burial society age of a bus, where a bomb exploded Sunday collect remains of the bodies from the wreck- (AFP photo)

thousands of Palestinians from jobs in Israel.

If the bomber was a

woman, it will change the way Israeli police and soldiers approach Palestinian women, who are not usually treated with suspicion at roadblocks leading to and from the occupied territories. Police Minister Moshe Shahal said.

"It means that we have to see them as potential attackers," he said.

Several hours after the blast, a melee broke out at the scene, with hundreds of angry demonstrators screaming "Rabin is a murderer" and "death to the Arabs." The anonymous caller to Israel Radio's Arabic service

said Hamas' military wing had "prepared a crusade"

that would last until the Israeli elections, scheduled for November 1996. He said it was because "Rabin has declared a comprehensive war against Hamas.'

The authenticity of the claim could not immediately be verified, and Hamas spokesman Imad Faluji in the Gaza Strip declined com-

Israel's Channel 2 television said the explosion was caused by a pipe bomb of three to four kilogrammes of

The road was covered with glass and pieces of foam from the bus, and the stench of fuel filled the air. Members of an ultra-orthdox burial society, some wearing orange safety vests over their traditional long black coats, picked up fragments of human

A body covered with an orange blanket, with one thin leg protruding, lay in the middle of the street several hours after the blast. Wound. ed passengers lay on sidewalks. A soldier was taken away in an ambulance, his

face torn and bloodied. The back end of the bus was a twisted cobweb of poles and metal. The roof was ripped off like the peel of ac orange, but the engine was still running. Emergency workers climbed over the charted wreckage, searching

for bodies. Right-wing Jewish settlers said they would hold protests at intersections across the country, in a repeat of their actions two weeks ago.

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — The rise in oil prices in the first half of 1995 has wiped out a projected deficit in Oman's budget and boosted the economy by more than five per cent, according to

Omani officials. 'There was a balance between spending and revenues in the first half of this year." said Mahmoud Al Jarwani, director of the Muscat stock

"The budget did not in-clude any deficit during this period due to higher earnings. It could have even recorded a surplus," he told the London-based Middle East Broadcasting Corporation Television on Sunday night.

Mr. Jarwani provided no figures but Oman had projected a 1995 budget deficit of around \$800 million. Revenues for the whole year were estimated at \$4.8 billion and expenditure at \$5.6 bil-

Oil prices averaged around \$17 in the first half of 1995 compared with nearly \$15.5 in the first half of 1994.

The price increase boosted the revenues of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) by around \$5.8 billion in the first half of 1995. according to bankers.

.All GCC states — Bahrain. Ku wait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates - have forecast budget deficits this year but bankers expect the shortfalls to be lower due to the oil

price improvement. Experts said Oman's income v/as also boosted by an increase of around 40,000 barrels per day (b/d) in its crude ou tput, to 850,000 b/d.

"Other positive indications during the first half included a growth in the gross domestic by around 5.4 per cent." Mr. Jarwami said.

He said such developments: coupled with economic reforms in the non-OPEC Gulf nation, pushed the stock market to a record level of performance.

Last week, the stock index teached its highest ever level of 155.10 points and turnover record \$144.3 million.

Meanwhile, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) newsletter reported Monday that Oman has in-

vited foreign firms to bid for licenses to develop oil reserves held in a total of 13 onshore and offshore exploration blocks.

Oman aims to increase foreign investment in its vital oil sector to offset maturing oilfields which are reliant on expensive secondary recovery techniques to even maintain current output of 850,000 b/d oil analysts say.

MEES reported that Omani ministry of petroleum and minerals (MPM). has for-warded bid documents to interested companies and will allow prospectors to view existing geological and geoph-ysical data on the available blocks from Oct. 7.

"A total of 13 exploration blocks consisting of substantial territory relinquished by major operator Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) are aiready open and some additional acreage released smaller producer. U.S. Occidental have been put on offer for full hydrocarbon exploration and production sharing agreements," the Cyprus-based newsletter

Companies have to send MPM sealed bids for the blocks, which should include details on work programmes, financial commitments and production splits, by Feb. 17 next year.

Most of the exploration blocks on offer are onshore and in the south of the country, including promising acreage close to Oman's borders with Saudi Arabia and

Offshore blocks located in the Strait of Hormuz, the Gulf of Oman and Arabian Sea are also open to interested investors.

MEES was upbeat about the attractiveness of the blocks offered by the MPM.

"Now that it has finally gotten off the ground, this latest upstream play - the first major relinquishment by PDO in many years — is sure

to attract worldwide attention," it reproted. Eight group of foreign companies already work in Oman but only account for

less than 10 per cent of Oman's total oil output. Non-OPEC Oman has oil reserves of 5.2 billion barrels.

Higher oil prices | Belgrade's diplomacy restricted by economic challenges

ciating.
Before introducing the new

currency in January 1994 at a

rate of one new dinar to one German mark, Yugoslavia

held the world record for

inflation running at the stag-gering rate of 313 million per

This year prices rose by 40

per cent over six months and

inflation was expected to

In contrast average salaries only increased by 17 per cent

and the budget deficit, large-

ly wiped out by reforms in January 1994, is creeping up

again. Pensioners and those

fortunate enough to have

Meanwhile, the black mar-

ket is flourishing and now

represents nearly 50 per cent

of the gross domestic pro-

duct, according to economic

But the social security cof-

fers are empty and Serbia.

not wanting to further in-

crease its budget deficit, is

ill-disposed to spend money

on the latest influx of re-

fugees fleeing the Croatian

offensive in formerly-Serb

Some 160,000 people

surged into Serbia at the be-

ginning of the month, swell-

ing the numbers of about

400.000 refugees already in

the country since "ethnic

cleansing" began three years

analysts.

held Krajina.

jobs are often paid late.

reach 90-100 per cent.

BELGRADE (AFP) — Cafes are full and shops well stocked but the rump Yugoslavia's hands are tied by its rapidly dwindling economy which, analysts say, has restricted its diplomatic dealings in the Balkans crisis and encouraged a positive response to peace plans.

For Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, the lifting of crippling international sanctions has become the driving force behind all negotiations.

A new American peace olan, discussed at length by Milosevic and visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke Friday, is believed to offer a full abolition of sanctions rather than the easing offered by the "contact group" of Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States.

The Yugoslav economy has been on a downward spiral since the international trade embargo was slapped on it three years ago and exacer-bated by the influx of thousands of Serb refugees fleeing Bosnia and Croatia.

Industrial production has slowed down to such an extent that it only amounts to 35 per cent of its 1989 output. and now remains stagnant. Half the active population has no work and the currency, the new dinar introduced early last year, is again depreThe only chink of light for these people, many of whom arrived with their tractors, lies in agricultural produc-

Thanks to agriculture, the rump Yugoslavia has been able to hold its head above water, one diplomat said. But the country, which was the first of the former socialist countries to embrace a market economy, has had its transition blown to pieces by the war and the embargo.

However, it is not just Yugoslavia which has been affected by the embargo. On Friday a spokesman for the Russian foreign trade ministry admitted the sanctions were costing Moscow \$5 billion a year. Before the embargo, Belgrade was one of Russia's top 10 trading

Another ministry official, speaking anonymously, said Russia would sign several economic cooperation accords with Yugoslavia during a meeting of a joint economic commission Tuesday.

He did not say when the agreements — to include Russian oil deliveries to Belgrade and building a gas pipeline - would come into force, nor how Russia would get around the May 1992

Russian grain harvest seen at lowest in thirty years

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's grain harvest may drop to 67 to 69 million tonnes this year due to drought and shortages of fertilisers and equipment but the government has not yet decided to resort to imports, a senior official has

The forecast by first deputy agriculture minister Magomedtagir Abdul Basir-ov, down from last year's output for 81.3 million tonnes, could mean that Russia will bring in its worst crop in 30 years.

Grain output this year may be expected to total 67million tonnes." Mr. Abdul Basirov told a news conference. "But Russians will not go hungry. Our government, and our president, will never allow this."

The disastrous harvest in drought-hit central Russia may be partially compensated for by a good harvest in Siberia but Mr. Abdul Basirov said some imports could be required.

No decision has been taken as of today to buy any quanti-ty of grain abroad," he said. "But I don't think there will be colossal purchases."

Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Zaveryukha said earlier this month that there would be no centralised state imports but commercial firms could make some purchases. Mr. Abdul Basirov estimated last year's grain imports at three to four million

tonnes, a modest amount compared with previous vears. Russia imported about-11 million tonnes in 1993 and 25 million in 1992.

It has been withdrawing from international grain markets in recent years as demand for livestock feed has

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles.

four ordinary words.

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ORVAB

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BUESAD

one letter to each square, to form

fallen sharply due to reduced herds. Russia also lacks the cash to pay for big purchases.

Any wheat buying this year could worsen an already tight

global supply situation.
Chicago wheat futures hit
15-year highs for harvest time last month on worries about tight world stocks and U.S. crops but prices have slipped as weather concern and export demand faded. Mr. Abdul Basirov said the

ministry was changing its harvest forecast practically every day. Previous official forecasts predicted the harvest would total 75 to 78 million

The latest forecast is close to the 1965 level of 66.3 million tonnes.

"I consider that, with the forecasts that we have today, we will have to import some grain," Mr. Abdul Basirov said, without giving any fi-

This year's crop problems have been caused mainly by a severe drought in central Russian growing areas in May and June and by shortages of fertilisers, pesticides and farm equipment, he said.
Mr. Abdul Basirov, who is

also head of the Federal Food Corporation (FCC), said about 1.5 million tonnes of grain had been bought so far from domestic producers, in-cluding 500,000 tonnes for federal reserves.

The FCC, responsible for federal reserves, expects to buy 9.5 million tonnes of grain this year. But it is struggling to find finance.

Domestic grain prices have been rising sharply and Mr. Abdul Basirov indicated that the costs could be passed on to consumers. "We will not go hungry but as for prices, it's difficult to say," he said.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

THE HOME TEAM FANS FAVORITE

DRINK

Now arrange the circled letters to

form the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon.

Jumbles: FEWER NOISY NIMBLE DEBTOR

A good place to do some reading -BETWEEN THE LINES

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BEIJING (AFP) - China will complete a new bankruptcy law in 1996 in advance reform of loss-making state firms, but the document will continue to focus on avoiding closures to reduce "negative effects," Xinhua said Mon-

day.

The financial and law committee of the National People's congress is now drafting the new law, which is expected be completed early

next year, the report said.

Among the guidelines of the law will be a requirement to reduce "the negative effects of bankruptcy to the minimum," by emphasising the role of mediation and enterprise restructuring, it

China's first bankruptcy law, passed in the mid-1980s, has been little used amid official concerns that massive unemployment could cause social unrest.

Some 25 million workers are estimated to be redundant in the inefficient state sector, which lost 33.6 billion yuan in 1994. Only one third of state enterprises are making a profit.
While the new law is to

comply with international practice by covering all kinds of enterprises, it will contain a special section on stateowned firms to "take the specific conditions of China into consideration," Xinhua

The law also seeks to define the relations between the government, enterprises and courts in handling bankruptcy cases, stipulating that official departments may not intervene in the procedures, the report said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUES-DAY, AUGUST 22, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll, Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Situations arise today which could bring your cher-Take it easy tonight and analyse your progress.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Try to make the conditions at home more as you would like them during this morning. Do nothing to disturb harmony.

GEMINE: (May 21 to June 21) You can easily ~ rtact certain individuals today who can help you greatly, but be direct with them. Drive with care on the highway.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Elevate your consciousness today so that you can have more of the fine things of life very soon to-

wards your success. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You see everything in a more optimistic light today and you can accomplish a great deal, provided you plan wisely.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A plan you have must be well thought out today if you are to gain the added success which means so much to you.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Bigwigs can be very favourable to you today and you can easily build up your assets. Get out socially with close friends this even-

ing. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Make sure you impress a higher-up with your capabilities and then you can become more successful to-

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Many new ideas are coursing through your mind today which should be made a note

of so that you will not forget CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Be more alert to new ideas and methods of operation today and start

working on them, but do not make changes this evening. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Being with bigwigs is the best way to make progress today so be ethical and loyal. Be very cooperative today. PISCES: (February 20 to

March 20) This is a good day to get your environment in better shape so that you will have more comfort and be able to work more efficiently.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

World gold demand grows strongly quarter to 87 tonnes, taking year-to-date offtake to a re-

LONDON (R) - World demand for gold showed strong growth in the second quarter of 1995, rising over 15 per cent to 663 tonnes from the same period last year, the World Gold Council (WGC) has said.

The WGC monitors around 75 per cent of the world's markets and said the overall growth reflected strong investment interest in Japan and good demand generally throughout the Far

"The first half of 1995 has seen a continuation of the strong overall growth trend in demand for gold which began in most of the world's major markets in the second half of 1994." a WGC spokesperson

Developed-country gold demand in the second quarter was up 18 per cent to 234 tonnes and in developing countries offtake rose 11 per cent to 429 tonnes.

Japanese demand was up 51 per cent in the second

cord 164 tonnes.

"In addition to the explosive growth in (Japanese) investment demand, jewellery demand for the first half was 14 per cent ahead of the same period last year," the WGC

Among developing countries, there were strong second-quarter increases in Indonesia (up 38 per cent) and Malaysia (up 26 per

per cent) and Saudi Arabia (up 17 per cent, continued to recover in the second quarter, it added.

But in Europe, jewellery demand fell four per cent in the period mainly due to weakness in German and Italian markets.

The World Gold Council is non-profit association, funded by leading gold producers worldwide, with headquarters in Geneva and offices in major markets around the world.



find on the side of the highway!"



Stanley is an animal...the kind you



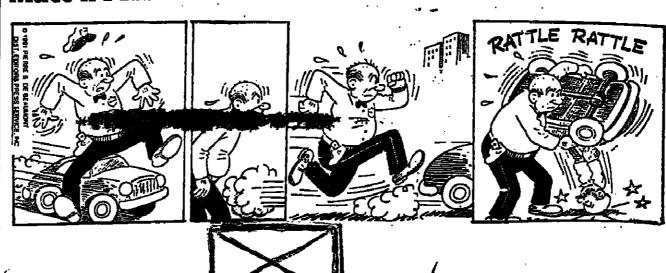
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Yates

1 Polliwog's pop 5 Ruth 9 Persian Gulf native 14 Unemployed

15 Brit's expression

ACROSS

- 16 Canonical hour 17 City on the Dnieper 18 Lose interest 19 Like a
- protuberance 20 Everywhere 23 Dingbat 2¹ Spaghetti sauce "A — bread ..." 30 Arabian port
- 32 Knack 34 "The King —" 35 Everywhere 38 Tantalize 40 Accomplished
- 41 Tanker 42 Everywhere 45 Pastures 46 Ivy League
- 47 Barney or Belsy 48 Gridiron event 50 Belt holders 52 Lawyer: abbr. 53 Everywhere 59 Craters of the

student

- Moon locale 62 Jai ---63 Big rig 64 Had 65 Bridle part
- 66 Skater Heiden 67 Cognizant 68 Ping follower 69 Stuff
- DOWN 1 "Kon---2 God of the
- Valkyries 3 Porters 4 Manta
- one can chew 6 Strain of flu 7 Dance or owl 8 Gave the once-

9 Veiled remark

- 5 more than
- 21 "Scooby —" (cartoon) 22 Ready for business 25 Followed 26 Trying time

All rights reserved

10 Haley work

12 Tchrs.' gp.

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11 Plus

- 27 Carpenter's item 28 "Anna Christie" creator
- 29 Musical direction 30 Seed covers 31 Pedestal part
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- 43 Pug or Roman 44 Lambasting 49 Blackish bean 51 Alternate
 - 54 Distort 55 One of the fats 57 Put forth
 - 56 Miles of movies
- 58 Pilat base 60 Grackle

Yesterday's puzzle solved:

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59 Give - whirl 61 Alias letters

Nusiness

eat

A review

of economic news

from the Arabic press

Sale of new

telephone

directory

Sept. 1, '95

** STARTING SEPT. 1,

1995, new telephone direc-tories will be available for

sale at the Telecommunica-

tions Corporation (TCC), the

minister of post and com-

munications has announced.

The directories will cover the

Greater Amman region and will be sold for JD 6. The

minister expects the distribu-

tion of telephone directories

for the governorates to begin

on Oct. 1, 1995 at JD 4 per

copy. The first batch of

20,000 telephone directories

for Greater Amman was deli-

vered to the corporation this

month and further batches

are expected to follow steadi-

ly. The minister said the cor-

poration is now preparing arrangements to distribute

the directories quickly and

without difficulty to tele-phone subscribers (Al Ra'i).

** TRADING COM-

PANIES wishing to publicise

their activities in a directory

to be distributed to the parti-

cipants in the Amman econo-

mic summit should fill a spe-

cial form available at the

Amman Chamber of Com-

merce. Another form is avail-

able to those wishing to sug-

gest projects that can be implemented, in cooperation

with foreign companies, in

commercial areas. Both

forms to those interested

should be collected before

** TRANSFORMING HE WHOIC OF AGED

free zone at present will be

very costly for the state with a

slow-growing return, a study

by the Royal Scientific Socie-

ty shows. Noting that the

basic components to trans-

form Aqaba into a free zone were available but needing

development, the study re-

commended transforming

parts of Aqaba into free

zones at the present stage.

Upon removing all hindr-

ances, the study said, the whole of Aqaba can be

turned into a free zone. The

study evaluated the feasibility

of establishing three free zones: on 30,000 dunums on

the southern coast, on 4,000

dunums in the airport area

and on 30,000 in the

Quweirah area. The study

recommended that light,

non-polluting industries be

licensed in the airport area,

assigning the southern coast

for heavy industries and

assigning the Quweirah area

to agricultural and livestock

projects. Also highlighted was the importance of private

sector contribution to basic

investments in the proposed

area, such as in setting up

free trade zones on land, air

and sea crossings of Aqaba

and on the crossings to the

proposed free zones areas

☆☆ THE SOCIETY of pro-

duce exporters has decided to

form a delegation to travel to

Russia, Poland and Latvia to

hold talks there on importing

Jordanian vegetables and

fruits. The mentioned coun-

tries are considered as prom-

ising to take Jordanian farm

products due to high population density and high prices

for fresh produce (Al Dus-

THE MANAGER of a

large transportation company

expressed astonishment over a statement by the minister of transport that the Jordanian

land transport fleet cannot

face the challenges of the

coming era. The manager

said that the fleet of trucks

and refrigerator-trucks was

still in good condition despite

being more than 40 years old.

He said that modernising the

fleet at present would be very

costly as truck-owners cannot

afford to replace their vehi-

cles. The manager added that if the ministry insists on its

view for modernisation, it

would be throwing thousands

of truck-owners and drivers

into poverty and ranks of the unemployed (Al Dustour).

(Al Ra'i).

. .

Aug. 30, 1995 (Al Ra'i).

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ESDAY, AUGUST 2,

comply with interne practice by covering at of enterprises, it will a a special section on owned firms to led specific conditions of into consideration. said.

The law also seeke: fine the relations between government, enterpny courts in handling bare CV cases, stipulating the cial departments may a tervene in the proof the report said

HOROSCOPE PORECAST FOR TU

DAY, AUGUST 22, 18. By Thomas S. Pierso Astrologer, Caroll Rigin

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CORPIO: (October 2 iovember 21) Make sur! npress a higher-up with: apabilities and then 100; ecome more successi

AGITTARIUS: (North) ew ideas are com rough your mind is hich should be made if f so that you will not in the name of the few made in the name of the na

APRICORN: (Decemb) January 20) Be more) new ideas and memor peration today and orking on them, but the changes this end QUARIUS: (January)
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id loyal. Be very out ISCES: (February 3)
(arch 20) This is a good get your environment of that for ve today. environments so that subsection more comfort so work more efficients. irthstone of August F

Dry **Britain** turns heat on water firms

LONDON (AFP) -Drought-hit Britain, baking in one of its hottest and driest summers on record, is increasingly turning the heat on newly-privatised water firms for failing to cope with the

In particular some of the utilities aree being accused of wasting massive volumes of water themselves through leaky and unmaintained pipes, while paying their directors and shareholders enormous honuses.

"We are very concerned that a number of companies appear to have failed in their statutory duty to provide water to their customers for domestic purposes during this hot dry weather," said Alan Booker, deputy head of in-dustry regulator Ofwal.

Some 30 per cent of the country - from Yorkshire in the north to Cornwall in the southwest - is now under

to monitor water restrictions. Two farmers were caught red-handed Sunday watering their crops, and could be fined up to \$20,000 (£13,000).

issued a report urging a whole range of possible further restrictions on water usage including toilets with limited flushes and lowpressure showers.

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AFP) - The Dubai Islamic Bank (DIB) has in-vited shareholders to subscribe to the third instalment of capital rise that will make it the biggest hank of its kind.

The management, in an announcement published in local newspapers Monday, said subscription to the 52.5 million dirham (\$14.3 miltion) increase would open on Sept. I and run through the

"We invite all shareholders to subscribe to the third instalment of the capital increase during the specified

period of time," it said. In 1994. DIB agreed to double its paid-up capital to 420 million dirhams (\$114.4 million) to face growing operations in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to face growing operations in the United Arab Emirates

(UAE) and other Muslim countries, according to offi-

The increase was also in line with instructions by the UAE central bank to the Gult country's 47 banks to boost their capital base to meet adequacy standards set by the Bank for International Settlement for banks worl-

DIB officials said subscription to the fourth and last

in terms of capital and assets.

Dubai Islamic Bank presses on with capital rise

instalment of the capital rise would end in March and it would turn the bank into the world's biggest Islamic bank

Like other UAE banks, DIB was hit by the collapse of the Abu Dhabi-controlled Bank of Credit and Commerce Interntional (BCCI) as it had 300 billion dirhams (S817 million) in deposits

with BCCI The problem prevented DIB from distributing profits to shareholders in 1991 and 1992. In 1993, it approved a eash dividend of six per cent after it made a net profit of 17 million dirhams (\$4.63 mil-

In its latest balance sheet released in March, DIB reported a surge in net earnings to 26.9 million dirhams (\$7.32 million. Assets also grew by around eight per cent to 5.48 billion dirhams (\$1.49) billion).

The Dubai government owns 12 per cent of DIB while Kuwait has a 10 per cent shareholding and the rest is held by local private investors.

The bank charge's a percen-tage of the profits from the projects it finances as it does and deal in interest, which is banned by Islam as usury.

China to invest \$12b in eight carmakers

BELLING (AFP) — China is to invest 100 billion yuan (\$12 billion) in eight key car manufacturers over the next five years as part of a plan to restructure the sprawling sec-tor, Xinhua said Monday.

the report said.

The remaining three are the Tianjin Daihatsu Auto-

mobile Co., the Changan

Suzuki Automobile Co. and

the Guizhou Skylark Auto-

mobile Corp., which produce

cars under licencing agree-

The government is to offer

preferential policies in the

areas of duties, loans and

overseas funds to the firms,

the report said, adding that it

would freeze approvals of

new light-duty truck produc-

tion from 1997 in line with a

development policy for the

vehicle industry released in

ments with foreign firms.

The eight companies include Sino-foreign joint ven-tures such as the Shanghai Volkswagen Automobile Corp., northeastern Changchun's No. 1 Motor Works and Volkswagen Co., Guangzhour Peugeot Automobile Co., Beijing Jeep Co. and Wuhan Aeolus-Citroen Co.,

water restrictions. Amid comparisons with the 1976 drought, helicopter squads have even been set up

The government Monday

July 1994.

The policy, aimed at developing the fledgeling sector into a pillar industry by 2010. outlined a plan to restructure some 120 firms into a handful of major conglomerates while refocusing output on to fami-

Sedans now account for only a small proportion of the 10 million vehicles that ply China's roads While output of cars stood

at just 250,000 in 1994, out of a total vehicle production of 1.3 million units; and is expected to rise to 350,000 this year, the figure is targetted to soar to 4.2 million units in

By that date, production value should hit one trillion yuan, Xinhua said.

The agency said the government had already taken some measures to strengthen the performance of the eight companies now protected from foreign competition by import taxes on cars of some 150 per cent.

The government is encouraging the companies to organise inter-regional groups by combining assets.

Sony, BBC link up on digital television

TOKYO (R) — Japan's Sony Corp has agreed to cooperate with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), British Telecommunications PLC and other companies to introduce digital terrestrial television in Britain, Sony said

A spokesman for the Japanese electronics conglomerate said other members of the development group would include U.S. electronies firm Motorola Inc. and two private British TV stations, Channel 4 and

"The aim is to develop an open and competitive market in service provision, receivers and conditional access to ensure rapid implementation," Sony said, adding that the group was open to more applications for membership.

Last week the British govemment announced that Britain's existing four terrestrial television stations would be joined by at least 18 new digitally transmitted channels by 1998, after new frequencies were allocated

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Financial

Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank



Currence		New York Close 11-41 16/6/95	Tobyo C&144 Imer 21:8:95
Sterling Pound		1.5410	1,544344
Drutsche Mark		1,4752	1.4235
Sain Franc		1.2533	1.2193**
French Franc		5.0555	5.0440**
Јаралене Чек		97.45	90.75
European Carreny Unit		1.2706	1,2779**

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Sterling Pound	6.43	6.56	6.68	6.67
Deutsche Wark	4.18	4.18	4.18	1.25
Swiss Franc	7.61	2.68	2.75	2.41
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French Franc	0,1412	0.1419
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Greek Drachma	0.2140	0.3340	
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and

pullion markets N	donday.	
One U.S. dollar	1,3588/98	Canadian dollar
	1,4750/60	Deutschemarks
	1.6506/16	Dutch guilders
	1.2212/22	Swiss francs
• •	30.30/34	Belgian francs
	5.0510/60	
9ρτc:limifi " Tags	1624.4/5.4	Italian lire
734	96.90/00	Japanese yen
	7.3570/70	Swedish crowns
	6.4470/20	Norwegian crowns
-	5.7115/65	Danish crowns

1.5420/30 One Sterling One ounce of gold \$385.60/386.00

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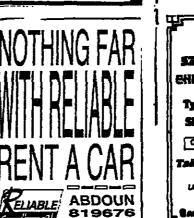
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Russia's Yulia Pakalina performs a jump from the three-metre jump-board at the 22nd European swimming Championship

European Swimming Championships Wetzig reclaims highboard crown

VIENNA (R) — Ute Wetzig triumphed for the second time in six years to lead a German one-two in the women's platform diving final at the European Swimming Championships on Sunday. Wetzig, who first won the

title in Bonn in 1989, kept her nerve while all around her faltered to clinch the gold on the 10-metre highboard ahead of fellow former East German Conny Schmalfuss.

Wetzig carried the secondlowest points total forward from Saturday's four-dive semifinal but quickly made good the deficit from that inauspicious position, seizing the lead after the second of the five final dives.

The victory embellished an already glittering array of European highboard medals for the 22-year-old blonde diver, who took gold in 1989, bronze in 1991 and silver in

Defending champion Svetlana Timoshinina of Russia saw her hopes of retaining the title dashed in the third round with a poor reverse 21/2 somersaults.

But she rallied bravely in the last two rounds to rise from 10th place and take the bronze ahead of Ukraine's

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan

(AP) — Two weary Spanish

climbers, who survived an attempt to scale K-2, the

world's second highest peak

that claimed their three coun-

trymen and famous British

climber Alison Hargreaves.

limped off the plane at Isla-

mabad Sunday and were

whisked away by embassy

so' a, the 1983 champion. squandered her medal chance with an indifferent fourth dive and had to settle-for

Italy's Francesca D'Oriano, top qualifier from the preliminary rounds, was less than half a point behind Wetzig with two rounds to go but dropped completely out of contention with a disastrous reverse 21/2 some-

rsaults and finished eighth. Alexei Akatiev brought Russia their fourth title of the 22nd European Championships with a runaway victory in the men's 5km longdistance race in a canal near the river Danube.

Akatiev, 25-km bronze medallist in last year's World Championships, swept clear soon after the halfway mark to win by a vast margin of more than a minute from Christof Wandratsch of Germany and Samuele Pampana

of Italy. The opposition failed to perturb Wetzig but a persistent wasp unsettled her as she went into her third dive.

"It landed on my arm and was buzzing around my ear.
It disturbed my concentration," she said. "The judge me to restart an

Overcome with emotion

the two wept as Spanish

embassy officials rushed to

greet them, helping them

manoeuvre through waiting

Speaking briefly through

an interpreter Lorenzo Ortas

Pont and Jose Antonio Pepe

Garces — leader of the 5-

member Spanish expedition

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said brutal winds plagued

Survivors report on missing climbers

wasp finally left me alone."
Wetzig said her team mates and coaches had helped her recover her confidence after the shortcomings of her performance on Saturday.

"I really have to thank them for building me back

She said she had also had poor preliminary round results before winning in 1989. 'I can remember how down I felt then too."

Germany were top of the medals table at the last European Championships in Sheffielo but had to wait till the fourth day of competition here before Wetzig gained their first title.

Timoshinina said she was disappointed at her failure to

"I was a bit nervous at the start. I wanted to achieve a lot, I wanted to dive better. It was more a psychological thing. I was very tense," she In the 5 km event, Wan-

dratsch and Pampana scrapped for the silver stroke for stroke down the return 2.5 km and were repeatedly warned to swim further apart by a race official in an accompanying boat.
Wandratsch blamed the

Italian for not keeping his

Reaching the summit if

K-2 there was a terrible

Three Spaniards — Javier

Escartin. Lorenzo Ortiz

Monson and Javier Olivar —

were among seven, including

Hargreaves, who died last

Sunday somewhere after the

8,000-metre mark of the

8.560-metre (28,251-foot)

It's now not clear whether

an avalanche or high winds

wind," they said.

summit of K-2.

Ghana win Under-17 World Championship GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (R) — Ghana beat Brazil 3-2 in the final of the World Under-17 championship on Sunday

to win the competition for the second time. Playing with verve and style, Ghana, champions in 1991,

took a two-goal lead in the first half but had to survive a late Brazilian recovery before claiming the title. Brazil, aiming to become the first South American side

to win the tournament since it began in 1985, created the better chances early on but fell behind in the 39th minute. Brazil goalkeeper Julio Espindola failed to hold a shot by Ghana right back Patrick Allotey and Emmanuel Bentil scored from the rebound.

Worse was to come for Brazil when Ghana midfielder Abu Iddrisu scored five minutes later with a powerful drive from 25 metres to give the Africans a two-goal halftime

Brazil pulled a goal back through Juan Santos two minutes into the second half but one minute later Bentil scored another goal from close range to restore the

Ghana spent the next half hour stroking the ball around in midfield but relaxed towards the end and allowed Brazil

Brazil struck the crossbar in one attack and pulled a goal back in the 90th minute with a superbly-taken individual effort by Marco Antonio Freitas but Ghana held on for the

100 injured in Brazilian stadium riot

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Around one hundred people, including 22 police-men, were injured as rival soccer fans fought a battle on the field after the final of a junior soccer tournament in Sao Paulo on Sun-

distance. "It was a bit unfair of him," he said.

00.30 seconds, with Wan-

dratsch second in 56:06.80,

just 31/2 seconds ahead of

Van Almsick Arrives

Swimming superstar Franzi Van Almsick swept into the

Austrian capital Sunday sur-

rounded by expectations of

world records and gold med-

Having emerged from a secluded training camp in

Bavaria, the 17-year-old Van

Almsick was haunted by cam-

eramen from official accre-

ditation to the first training

She tried to speak casually

with Steffen Zesner, her 27-

year-old boyfriend but nearly

every move at practice was

The show will start for real

when she gets into the pool

for competition Tuesday morning in the 100-meter

She will hardly get out of it for the rest of the week.

seven gold medals in all frees-

tyle events from 50 to 400

swept the climbers from the

Earlier reports blamed an

avalanche, but as survivors

arrive in the mountain town

of Skardu they say a blinding

blizzard struck last Sunday

On Saturday a helicopter

rescued Pont and Garces

from the base camp on K-2

and airlifted the two to Skar-

du, where they caught a com-

mercial flight for Islamabad.

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Van Almsick aims for

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freestyle trials.

Akatiev won in 55 minutes

Dozens of fans broke down the fencing around the field at the Pacaembu stadium and attacked each other with sticks, bricks, iron bars and pieces of wood after the match involving the junior teams of Palmeiras and Sao Paulo, two of Brazil's leading clubs, police said.

Players ran for the dressing rooms and team sources said that three were hit by stones thrown from the terraces. Once the fighting had died down, Palmeiras, the winning team, returned to the pitch to collect their trophy.

One fan, who has not been identified, was in critical condition with head injuries, police said.

In the most shocking incident, television pictures showed one fan smashing a piece of wood over the head of another fan who was on the ground, apparently already injured. The injured man was

trying to get up as he was hit. Another fan had tried to drag him off the field but gave up under a hail of missiles. After being hit on the head, the injured man got up, staggered off the field, crashed into a fence and collapsed.

One television station repeated the scene at regular intervals with the caption

In another incident, a Palmeiras fan was saved by a policeman after being set upon by a gang of around one dozen Sao Paulo supporters, who kicked him and beat him with sticks. Initial reports had put

the injury toll at 50 but police said later Sunday that 100 people needed hospital treatment. Most were discharged after treatment but five were detained, police said.

The riot, which lasted around half an hour, began after Palmeiras scored five minutes into sudden death extra time to win the under-19 match 1-0.

Palmeiras fans climbed the fencing around the pitch to celebrate and began making provocative gestures at the Sao Paulo supporters on the terraces. The enraged Sao Paulo fans broke down a piece of fencing, rushed onto the pitch and began the battle.

Palmeiras striker Adalton suffered a deep cut behind the ear while two Sao Paulo players were also hit by stones thrown by fans an they attempted to escape.

The pitch was littered with debris and seats had been ripped out of the stands after the riot.

The Brazilian championship match between Corinthians and Bragantino, due to be held in the same stadium later in the day, was postponed.



Monica Seles returns a ball in her final match in the Canadian Open (AFP photo)

Seles caps sensational return with Canadian Open title

TORONTO (AP) — In the end, there were a tears, a flood of emotions that Monica Seles had held in check until now.

Seles had just completed a remarkable first week back in tournament tennis Sunday, demolishing Amanda Coetzer 6-0, 6-1 to capture the Canadian Open.

And there she stood, crying.
"I just can't believe it," she said. "Not playing in such a long time and then playing so well. It's unbelievable.

"There were so many emotions to get to this point. The two years were so hard. From that day to this day - what a difference." Returning to competitive tennis almost 21/2 years after she was stabbed during a tournament in Hamburg, Germany, Seles dominated the Canadian Open. She seemed to have lost none of the skills that made her the No. 1

player in the world. Her plan was just to get in some matches before the U.S. Open, which begins its two-week a week from Monday. But her game was so strong that instead of a warmup, it turned into a waltz to the championship.

Seles said she never expected that. "To be able to come out and play great tennis and enjoy it," she said. "It's quite

It's not as if the Hamburg episode has been erased entirely. "There are flashbacks," she said. "On long points, I start thinking. Then I tell myself, 'you can't do this. You're in a match. Just go out and play great tennis." "Reality is still there. I can't forget that. The reality is it happened. It will always be

This tournament was planned as a tentative first step back for her. In a field that included top players like Steffi Graf, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, Mary Pierce and Gabriela Sabatini, she expected only to use it to get accustomed again to tournament surroundings and condi-

But her game was surprisingly powerful all week, her serves and returns consistent and strong. She had every shot in her arsenal working to perfection, breezing to the final with straight-set wins over Kimberly Po. Nathalie Tauziat, Anke Huber and Gabriela

As she had all week, Seles dominated the match with Coetzer. The petite South African tory.

had simplified Seles' way to the championship by knocking off four seeds players, including Graf, Pierce and No. 4 Jana Novotna. When she encountered Seles, however, it was no

The closest Coetzer came was to force three break points on Seles' first service game in the opening set. Each time, Seles won the next point to keep the game going, and finally won it. The game consumed six minutes. The next five took just 22 more as Seles mixed power with touch to take control.

"I didn't feel intimidated by the hype around Monica," Coetzer said. "She just didn't allow me to play my game. She doesn't give you a lot of time. You have to get used to how fast the ball comes at you. You get to a !! point where you're confused. I wasn't sure; what to do.'

When to do.

When Coetzer managed to hold her serve in the second game of the second set, it ended a streak of 18 straight games won by Seles.

For the tournament, Seles lost just 14. games, never dropped a set and was broken just three times in five matches. She played just 74 games in five matches, setting a tournament record for least number of games played by a champion. The old record was 85,31 set by Pam Shriver in 1987 and matched by Sabatini in 1988. Sunday's match lasted 51 minutes. Only

once did Seles require more than an hour to dispose of an opponent. She needed just 4. hours, 41 minutes of total playing time to win the title, averaging 56.4 minutes per match. Except for a sluggish start against Anke Huber, she dominated her opponents.

It was the 41th victory in the last 43 matches for Seles, who had been dominating the women's tour before the incident at Hamburg. There was a long debate about how she should be ranked upon her return before the players agreed to give her a co-No. 1 spot with 't Graf.

For the final, fans hung two banners at the York University tennis centre. One said: "Forget the co-ranking, Monica you're No. 1," and the other said. "Monica the real No.

All week, Seles seemed to confirm those opinions. And on Sunday, she punctuated them with her 33rd career tournament vic-

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would have resulted in an unsink-

Opening lead: Ace of ± Those adages that players keep quoting will be the death of us. Alquoting will be the death of us. Al-though they do apply in many situa-tions, every hand is different and must considered on its own merits. All the foregoing is occasioned by someone pontificating: "Lead up to weakness; lead through strength."

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able contract. However, we do not blame that player for correcting to West reasoned East had to have club values for the opening bid and elected to make matters easy for

partner by leading the ace of clubs and continuing the suit when East signalled with the king. The moment of truth had arrived. East decided to lead up to weakness

and shifted to the king of spades. A

grateful declarer happily won the ace, drew trumps and ran diamonds to make the rest of the tricks. There were two good reasons why East should have ignored the adage. First, with two area West would surely have doubled five hearts. Sec-ondly, if West did not want to dou-ble, the correct defense would have been to cash the ace of spades at

trick two, then lead another club.

Look what happens if East
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the queen of diamonds with the king
and try to cash the ace. Unfortunately, East ruffs and declarer overruffs. Declarer can get back to the
board with a club ruff to try to cash
a high diamond. But East ruffs
again, stranding declarer with a
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managed to hold hersen: of the second set, it end right games won by Se nament. Seles lost just opped a set and was his in five matches She plan in five matches setud for least number of s pion. The old record se er in 1987 and maide

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in Sunday, she punch 3rd career tournament

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Middlesbrough tie Arsenal 1-1

LONDON (R) - Dennis Bergkamp's Arsenal showed touches of the soccer new manager Bruce Riuch wants them to play but needed an Ian Wright goal in the traditional Highbury mould to snatch an equaliser against Middlesbrough on

Nick Barmby, Boro's club-record £5.25 million (\$8.1 million) capture from Arsenal's arch-rivals Tottenham Hotspur, stunned the Highbury crowd when he put his new side ahead after half an hour of the teams' opening premier league match

Barmby ran on to a neat back-heel from Norway international Jan-Aage Fjortoft to score from a tight angle. But goal machine Wright, Arsenal's leading scorer last season with 31 strikes, pulled the teams level within five

Midfielder Ray Parlow fought for and won the ball on the right goalline and hit a weighted cross which the veteran England striker Rose to meet with a fine header that beat former Arsenal keeper Allan Miller. Middlesbrough, who won the first division title last season,

were strong in defence and Arsenal's second half domination, including a dozen corners, counted for nothing but near Arsenal showed promise despite a disappointing debut by

Miller, understudy to England "keeper David Seaman at Arsenal before his 1994 move to Middlesbrough, fulled off two brilliant saves from Bergkamp and an even better tip-over from a Wright header in the dying minutes.

England captain Platt but could not find the break they

Graf does not know what she is worth

where I've always lived, and

pay my taxes where I live." Graf was quoted as saying.

MUNICH (AP) — Steffi Graf says she knows neither how much she is worth nor where her millions are actually located, the newsmagazine Focus reported Sunday.

"I'm sorry to say I don't know one or the other," Graf was quoted as telling the magazane.

Graf's father, Peter, had handled all her finances until his arrest this month on suspicion of tax evasion. He is being held in a prison hospit-

The 26-year-old tennis star said her father would no longer handle her financial affairs, even if the charges against him are dropped, Focus said in a report telefaxed to news agency's in advance of Monday's publication.

Graf said she had no plans to move her primary residence from Germany for a lower-tax country.

"I can't imagine leaving Germany. I would like to continue living in Germany,

al return Olympic equestrian venue applauded

ATLANTA (R) — Maria Mehrdorf of Germany and her horse Local Yokal took the gold medal at the Atlanta Cup three day event on Sunday as the potentially con-troversial 1996 Olympic venue won high praise from competitors and international

equestrian officials. Mehrdorf and Local Yokal jumped a clean round Sunday at the Georgia International Horse Park with no time penalties to overtake Marie Duroy of France, who held first place after Saturday's endurance phase of the three-

day event. Duroy, aboard Voyou Iv, took 15 penalty points in Sunday's stadium jumping test to fall to third. Her team mate Antoine Schonauer. aboard Rondeau, took the

silver medal. Despite temperatures which hovered near 100 degrees (37.8C) for the first of the three days, riders said modifications to both the course and the rules helped keep the horses relatively cool in Saturday's endurance

Meet officials moved the start of competition back to the cooler morning hours. shortened the endurance course, eliminated two jumps, and added a cooling stop midway through the

Huge fans blowing water mist were installed in the cool-down areas. Equestrian officials said similar adjustments could be made in next year's Olympic competition

"I think the course is very good for these conditions, but I would not like to start any later that this," said Phillipe Mull, of France, who finished the event fourth. "I think the cooling stop was

icry good. Kyle Carter of Canada. who rode in both the threeday event and in the advanced horse trials, held in conjunction with the threeday competition, said: "I think they've done a brilliant job in adjusting the course to meet the conditions."

Violence mars Ahli-Orthodoxi basketball match

Orthodoxi pull out of JBF events; competitions put on hold

By Aleen Bannayan Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Sunday night's match between Jordan's basketbell powerhouses Al Ahli and Al Orthodoxi turned into a battle when players and fans of both teams broke into a riot helped by total absence of policemen at Al Ahli's

The match was halted when Al Ahli were leading 60-57, with 10'45" remaining in the second half of the Under-22 match.

In a surprising announcement following the scuffle, the Orthodoxi club informed the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) Monday afternoon of its decision to suspend their participation in all JBF tournaments, including the women's championship currently under way. "We are not playing tonight's Orthodoxi-Jazireh

women's match and we are pulling out of all JBF activities until further notice," Orthodox Club vice-chairman Raja'i Sukkar told the Jordan Times. The decision is quite drastic and could reflect negatively on the club's other teams and age groups. JBF regulations of 1995 stipulate that players of any club withdrawing from competitions will automatically be free to join other clubs.

"The JBF will review this matter based on reports by the referees and technical committees. JBF regulations will be applied," federation secretary Mohammad Nabil Hassan

told the Jordan Times. He said the JBF had released players of five teams which

had withdrawn from the U-22 championship: Mafraq, Husun, Ashrafieh, Gazzet Hashem and Fuheis. However, in its meeting Monday afternoon, the JBF tried to calm things down by not taking any major decision

In a press release the JBF announced its "regret of the incidents at the Ahli-Orthodoxi match" and announced the forming of a fact-finding committee to "bring things back to normal and take the decision that would best serve Jordanian basketball." The JBF also decided to postpone

scheduled U-22 and women's matches until further notice.

The brawl seemed imminent as tensions were running high with players from both teams constantly arguing with the referees in the match that saw Al Ahli, needing to win by any score to secure the title, pitted against Al Orthodoxi who needed a 24-point win to keep their title hopes alive. Al Ahli's court was packed with fans from both sides and Al Orthodoxi were leading throughout the first half before Al Ahli tied the score in the final two minutes and took a 42-41 half-time lead.

Al Ahli had an explosive start to the second half and took a 56-47 lead as the game seemed to be turning to their advantage. Tension began to build up when Al Orthodoxi's Mustafa Al Ghoul, apparently dissatisfied with a foul call, surprised officials and over 400 fans when he slapped the

Ghoul was given a technical foul and was sent out from the game as the referees tried to calm things down. The JBF officials, in a bid to avoid confrontation as the public was growing unruly, called for policemen from the nearest police station.

Minutes later, Al Orthodoxi's Ihab Msih kicked opponent Faisal Nsour as both struggled for possession of the ball. Things went out of control from that moment on and players from both teams got entangled in a fight which JBF officials, referees and Ahli Club officials tried, with no success, to stop. Fans from both sides left the stands and descended on Al Ahli's court which, for two minutes,

Orthodoxi's head coach Murad Barakat later told the referees he was pulling his team out because policemen failed to show up and two of his players had to be taken to

The interesting and highly competitive match, marred by violence — an unprecedented phenomenon on the country's basketball scene — thus became a disappointing,

Al Orthodoxi's withdrawal from the competitions casts a negative impact on the U-22 championship in which Al Orthodoxi and Al Jazireh would be battling for second place as Al Ahli had almost clinched the title with their 87-64 win over Orthodoxi and 66-62 win over Jazireh in the first round.

The women's competition is most affected as only three teams were supposed to participate. Only two matches have been played so far: Al Jazireh defeated Al Ahli 66-33 and Al Orthodoxi beat Al Ahli 55-52.

Enqvist beats Karbacher to win RCA Championship

INDIANAPOLIS (R) Fourth-seeded Thomas Enqvist of Swedenl became the

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newest top 10 player with a

6-4 6-3 win over 12th-seeded bernd Karbacher of Germany at the \$1.04 million RCA Championships on Sunday.

When Monday's ATP Tour rankings come out, the 13thranked Enqvist will enter the top 10 for the first time, at number nine.

He becomes the 12th Swede since rankings began in 1973 to crack the top 10. He also becomes the hingest-ranked Swede currently on tour, above Magnus Larsson, Stefan Edberg, Jonas Bjork-man and Mats Wilander. "It is a very good feeling,"

questions about if I have a goal to be in the top 10. Now I don't have to answer that

Next to top-ranked Andre Agassi, who won his fourth title of the summer at new haven Sunday, Enqvist is the hottest player on the tour. His \$150,000 RCA championships victory is his fourth title of the year.

Heading for the U.S. open later this month, the Swede has an impressive 18-4 wonlost recordi for the summer hardcourt season.

Agassi topples Krajicek for title

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) - Andre Agassi, on the brink of defeat, rallied to defeat Richard Krajick 3-6, 7-6 (7-2) 6-3 Sunday and capture the Volvo International.

It was Agassi's fouerth straight title and sevent of the year, surpassing the record of six he won in 1988. Agassi improved to 46-2 on hardcourts this year going into the U.S. Open, where he

will defend his title in the year's final Grand Slam tournament. He has reached the final in every hardcourt event he's played this year and hasn't lost a match on the surface this summer. Agassi, who needed only a



little more than an hour to eliminate each of his first four

opponents this week, got off

jicek and needed nearly two hours to win the tournament.

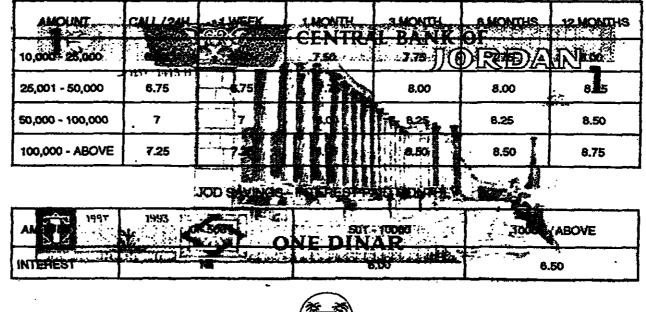
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KUWAIT CITY (Agencies) oil per day to Jordan. - U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau on Monday asked Kuwait to consider replacing Iraq as a source of oil for Jordan under a plan to weaken Iraq. a member of parliament (MP)

Mr. Pelletreau told Kuwaiti officials that Jordan needs to be provided with oil and be compensated for the commercial interests it might lose from closing its border with Iraq, according to the deputy who was briefed in the talks.

"Mr. Pelletreau conveyed this to Kuwait today. according to the deputy who asked not to be named. Kuwait said it will base its reply on what other Gulf countries like Saudi Arabia decide to do, the MP added.

A U.S. embassy official in Riyadh told AFP that Mr. Pelletreau was to have discussed possible aid for Jordan from Saudi Arabia during his meeting with King Fahd late Sunday in Jeddah, but did пот elaborate.

The MP said if Kuwait decides to supply oil to Jordan, it will not announce it publicly for fear of stirring up lingering Kuwaiti anger at Jordan for its perceived support for Iraq after the 1990 invasion of the emirate.

A government official who requested anonymity said before the start of talks with the Kuwaiti officials, which included the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, that Kuwait would study any U.S. proposal to supply oil to Jor-

Under an exemption to the U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq after the invasion. Iraq can export 70,000 barrels of

By Randa Habib

AMMAN — Iraqi President

Saddam Hussein lost the

backing of another key family

member when his half-

brother, ambassador to the

support behind toppling the

Baghdad government.

Barzan Ibrahim Takriti has

refused to return to Baghdad

from Geneva and has given

his support to President Sad-

dam's son-in-law, another

senior official who defected

to Jordan, sources close to

the ambassador said Mon-

Former Industry Minister

General Hussein Kamel Has-

san defected to Amman Aug. 8 with his brother and their

wives, both daughters of

President Saddam. Several

days later Gen. Hassan called

for the president's over-

As one more close family

member appeared to defect,

Iraqi sources said President

Saddam has prevented all

government officials and

workers from leaving the country without "presidential

Barzan Takriti broke ties

with the Iraqi president be-cause of an incident involving

his brother, Watban Takriti,

who was reportedly shot in

the leg by President Sad-

dam's oldest son Uday during

a family dispute a few weeks

a hospital interview on Sun-

Iragi Television broadcast

ago, the sources said.

sources said Monday.

Agency France Presse

Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry officials said Mr. Pelletreau was also to discuss what both countries have termed unusual troop movements inside Iraq. Washington on Sunday

sent the first contingent of 1,400 U.S. soldiers to Kuwait for exercises aimed at dissuading Iraq from any attack. The war games are due to begin next week.

It was not immediately known when the contingent of 80 troops would arrive.
The official Kuwait News

Agency (KUNA) had no word on the subjects discussed by Mr. Pelletreau but U.S. diplomats have said the envoy was trying to rally support for U.S. plans to further isolate Iraq. Prime Minister Sheikh

Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah also attended the meeting. Mr. Pelletreau was accompanied by Mark Parris, a special assistant to President Bill

Clinton. Mr. Pelletreau left shortly after 1200 GMT for an undisclosed destination. On Sunday evening he met King Fahd of Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea port of Jeddah.

The U.S. government has said it would like Jordan to stop buying Iraqi oil, one of Baghdad's few economic links to the outside world. Mindful of this, Baghdad has refrained from criticising

Amman for giving asylum on Aug. 10 to former Iraqi Industry Minister Hussein Kamel Hassan, his brother and their two wives, both daughters of President Sad-At the weekend the Iraqi

defected over Watban attack

Watban, who had an appa-

rent bullet wound in his leg,

said he was accidentally in-

jured, along with two other

people, when guns were fired

to celebrate a marriage about

to Geneva in February 1989,

was responsible for managing

Rumours have circulated

for several months of bad

blood between him and Presi-

dent Saddam, even though

his daughter is married to the

President Saddam's new

travel restrictions have been relayed to officials at the

Iraq-Jordan border post at

Treibil, the Iraqi sources

Travellers coming from Iraq also said that six check

points, including barriers,

have been erected along the

650-kilometre road between

Baghdad and the Jordanian

mark the names of all the

travellers, the licence plate

numbers of the vehicles and

then pass them along to the

next checkpoint," one of the

Security measures have

also been beefed up on the

two sides of the Jordan-Iraq

border and "the searches are

much more meticulous than

associates were arrested

along with the a large number

Six of Gen. Hassan's

before Hassan's defection."

travellers said.

day with Watban, who is also of officers who were known

"At each barrier, soldiers

president's son Uday.

Iraqi investments and finan-

cial affairs.

Barzan Takriti, who went

president Saddam's half- to be close to him.

Barzan Takriti said to have

"Iraq wants to preserve its relations with Jordan and

hopes to develop and streng-

then them to the greatest

possible degree in all

spheres," a government spokesman said Saturday af-

ter a cabinet meeting chaired by President Saddam to dis-

"Any cooperation by Jor-

dan with other brother Arab

countries will not reduce

Iraq's eagerness to streng-

then its economic relations

with Jordan," he added in a

reference to the warming re-

lations between Jordan and

Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz told CNN in a

televised interview Friday:

sisterly and neighbourly na-

"We had and we still have

good relations with this coun-

try and we would like to

Food and medicine

allowed into Iraq by the U.N.

are transported via Jordan.

Tanker trucks also take the

Baghdad-Amman road to

transport the 70,000 barrels

of oil per day which Jordan

Iraqis wanting to travel

abroad must travel the 1,000

kilometres by road to Am-

man to take a plane there,

while travellers to Baghdad

are also obliged to travel over

land between the two capit-

Arab countries to grant entry

visas to Iraqis, who have fled

in their thousands to Amman

to escape the catastrophic

economic situation in their

own country caused by five

"All the belongings, com-

panies and stocks of General

Hassan were seized by Iraqi

Meanwhile, Gen. Hassan's

father, Kamel Hassan, died

Thursday in Iraq from a heart

Kamel Hassan died at the

authorities.

AFP.

authorities.

Jordan is one of the few

receives from Iraq.

maintain those relations."

We still think of Jordan as a

cuss Jordan.

Saudi Arabia.

His Majesty King Hussein on Monday presents a medal to Air Force Captain Mohammad

Air force officer honoured for outstanding crew rescue effort

AMMAN (Petra) — His crashed last week. Majesty King Hussein on Monday conferred on Air Force Captain Mohammad Fuad Jlilati the Al Hussein Golden Medal in recognition of his successful efforts in rescuing the two pilots of an army helicopter which

Fuad Jilati (Petra photo)

Also on Monday, King Hussein, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, visited the headquarters of the Hamzeh Ben Abdul Mutaleb Brigade. They listened to a briefing

on the unit's tasks. Later they

were accompanied by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and His Royal Highness Prince Hamzeh Ben Al Hussein on an inspection visit to the brigade and watched the troops presenting a per-formance to mark the King's

Effort for reconciliation bearing fruit, Sharif Zeid tells Senate

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker on Monday stressed Jordan's stand vis-a-vis Iraq and said there are clear and encouraging signs that Jordan's diplomacy will help seal Arab reconciliation, the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) reported.

In a meeting with members of the Senate on the latest developments, the prime minister reaffirmed Jordan's policy of non-interference in other countries' internal affairs, Speaker Ahmad Law-

Speaking to the press

shortly after the session. Mr. Lawzi said Jordan insists on an end of the economic embargo imposed on Iraq since 1990 and seeks at the same time to enhance Arab relations to achieve Arab reconciliation and solidarity.

"Jordan stands firm on its policy of non-interference in the internal policies of Arab countries. The policy not only applies to Iraq, but also to Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and all neighbouring Arab countries." Mr. Lawzi quoted Sharif Zeid as saying. Jordan, its government and people, would not accept other countries to meddle in

"Jordan is keen on restoring Arab solidarity... Jor-

dan's diplomacy will have an effective role in sealing re-conciliation," Sharif Zeid told the Senate, according to Mr. Lawzi.

The meeting, Mr. Lawzi said, also focussed on the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) económic summit scheduled to be held in Amman in October and ways of making this summit successful.

He said the package of economic laws - mainly the income tax law, the sales tax law and the encouragement of investment law which are being reviewed by the Lower House's Financial Committee are of paramount importance to the success of the

missing in Moroccan floods

Hundreds

RABAT (R) — Moroccan rescue workers were wading in the mud for the fourth day on Monday in a search for hundreds of people believed still missing in the Atlas Mountains after floods which killed at least 141 people. newspapers reported.

The opposition newspaper L'Opinion, whose reporter was among those who survived the disaster touched off by a freak rainstorm on Thursday night, said local authorities told him up to 1,500 people were still missing. Other newspapers said 500

people were still unaccounted for after what has been described as the worst flood in more than 50 years hit the region around Marrakesh, 330 from Rabat.

The Interior Ministry. which is overseeking the rescue operation, confirmed there were still some people missing in the worst hit region of Al Haouz but declined to give a number. A spokeswoman said some figures in newspapers were exaggerated.

She said the official toll was still at 141 dead. One opposition newspaper

Al Alam, reported that 230people had died and 500 were missing. Of the dead, 166 lost their lives in the worstaffected of Ourika, 35 kilometres south of Marrakesh, the paper said.

Officials said the morgue in Marrakesh was full to overflowing as another 10 bodies were brought in Sunday and alternative arrangements were being made to accommodate the dead.

An official who requested anonymity said an additional 30 bodies had not been included in the official toll as they were so badly mutilated by waterfalls, mud and falling rocks that they had not yet been identified.

The official also said 60 more people had already



Residents refuse to move for \$1.4 b. subway project

BELITNG (AFP) - Many

residents in Guangzhou are

refusing to move to make

way for the southern Chi-

nese city's new subway, causing serious delays in the 12 billion yuan (\$1.4 billion) project, a report said. monday. "Unexpected difficulty in the relocations has delayed this year's construction work, the China Daily quoted Li Zilit, mayor of the capital of Guangdong booming province, as saying. Many residents, particularly old people, are reluctant to move from their homes. despite government offers of good housing with convenient access to the subway, the report said. Nearly 100,000 Guangzhou residents are to be resettled from the area of the project, the newspaper reported, quoting Li as saying that the work was "fundamental for completing the subway by the year 1998." By June, only one third of the phaseone construction had been completed, the report said, citing local officials as promising to be back on schedule by the end of the year. Some 6,000 houses in the phase-one zone have been demolished and 1,000 more households signed contracts recently with the local government to move next spring, it said, adding that more than 2.6 billion yuan had so far been spent on relocation and building apartments.Serious funding shortages are another factor threatening the project, according to a recent report, which said the Chinese government would issue bonds to overcome the

'Count Porno' to stand for Free Democrats

problem.

BONN (AFP) - The Free Democratic Party (FDP) has entered a candidate for Munich city elections next year who is better known for steamy cinema roles than for his political talents, the Express newspaper reported Monday. The Italian Rinaldo Talamonti, 48, the paper recalled, starred in such works as "Count Pomo" Blows the Bugle", "Dr. Slapentickle and his Playmates" and "The Love-Struck Craftsman". From 1969 to 1978, he was Germany's busiest actor in erotic films, before becoming a shoe-seller and then an innkeeper. Soft-porn comic films are a Bavarian specialty. Former Miss Germany Dagmar Woehrl ("When Chastity Belts Jingle in the Night"), is today a member of parliament for the very conservative Christian

Sydney experiences longest dry spell in 137 years

Social Union.

SYDNEY (AFP) - Weather experts said Sydney broke a 137-year-old record Monday when rain failed to fall for the 35th consecutive day over the eastern Australian city. The Bureau of Meteorology said bouts of prolonged dryness were common in Sydney winters but this was the longest period without rain since records were first kept in-1858. The dry weather was caused by high pressure systems in the centre of the continent moving north and driving westerly winds towards the coast, said a bureau spokesman. The government of the eastern state of New South Wales, of which Sydney is the capital, said it may step up restrictions on water use if levels in the city's dams continued to drop. Sydney residents are already banned from using water from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Police see French link to Paris bomb

PARIS (R) - Police believe younger than the men sought Algerian Muslim extremists may have recruited disgruntled French youths of North African origin to stage last week's bomb attack in central Paris which wounded 17 people, a press report said on

Takrit hospital, north of Monday. Baghdad, where he had been The popular daily Francetaken after complaining of Soir, quoting investigators, heart problems, the sources said two suspects sought by police for the bombing, near "The general's father was the Arc de Triomphe, were very upset by the defection of vounger than other men his two sons ... as well as the wanted in connection with arrest of two other of his sons two other attacks in Paris last

in Iraq, including Hakim Kamel Hassan," the sources, month. A bomb killed seven peoclose to the Hassan family, ple in a commuter train in added. central Paris on July 25, two Iraq published a list of six weeks after Abdul Hakim traitors on Thursday, includ-Sahraoui, a popular Algerian ing Hakim, calling on anyone who knew the individuals to Muslim cleric who had been threatened by extremists, was turn themselves in to the shot dead at his Paris mos-

The authorities are sear-Investigators favous the ching for another advisor and theory that a single Algerian relative of President Saddam extremist group was behind who has fied Baghdad, the the three attacks. opposition Iraqi National

France-Soir said a single Congress (INC) said. commando coming from Authorities are "looking abroad could have shot everywhere" for Hashem Sahraoui and bombed the Hassan Al Majid, brother of commuter train before handformer Defence Minister Ali ing over to another comman-Hassan Al Majid who was do recruited in the Paris refired in May, "to arrest him and prevent him from leaving

Press reports have said the Iraq," the INC said. Hashem Hassan, is an gas canister which blasted the train had been bought in Beladvisor to the president for gium while the bullets used to Iraqi people's organisations, kill Sahraoui had been the London-based opposition bought near Paris - highgroup said in a statement lighting a possible French connection.

A key eyewitness who saw

two men stuffing a package

into a dustbin shortly before

it exploded last Thursday

near the Arc de Triomphe

said they were in their 20s -

away their weapons.

"These crimes can't go un-

"There is sure to be a

the daily Al-Ahram

punished without an inquiry

to determine who is responsi-

for the two other attacks.

In telephone calls to RTL radio, a man purporting to speak for the Armed Islamic Group (GIA) general command has claimed responsibility for both bombings, in which similar devices were

The caller denounced the French government's alleged support for Algeria's military government in its fight against Muslim fundamentalist rebels. The GIA is the most violent Algerian rebel

A police spokesman declined to comment on the France-Soir report, which would confirm France's worst fears that Algerian strife could spread to its fourmillion-strong Muslim com-

Human rights organisations have warned that youths of North African descent, disgruntled by acute unemployment and a grim life in drab suburbs, were easy prey for extremists.

French police have recently cracked down on suspected Algerian fundamentalist sympathisers, detaining more than 100 people in a swoop on Paris suburbs in June. They had seized weapons in an earlier swoop late last

Yet videotapes explaining how to make gas canister bombs such as those used in the Paris attacks and in bombings in Algeria have been circulating recently among Muslim militants in the Paris region. Egypt demands Israel pay price for PoW killings

'Iran may consider renewing U.S. ties'

would consider renewing relations with the United States if Washington made up for its past animosity," a senior Iranian diplomat was quoted

Monday as saying. But Hussein Musavian, Iran's ambassador to Germany, told Tehran's Iran English-language daily that "the final decision... will be taken by the emininent leadership whom we all follow and will continue to do so." He was referring to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the

Islamic republic's supreme leader and a hardliner on relations with Washington. Mr. Musavian's comments did not appear to break new ground on the possibility of Iran and the United States normalising relations, severed by the Carter adminis-

tration April 9, 1980. Iran has repeatedly said relations cannot be restored until the United States releases Iranian assets worth between \$9 billion and \$12 billion in November 1979 after the U.S. embassy in Tehran was stormed and diplomats held hostage, and halts its political and economic campaigns against

Tehran. But Mr. Musavian's comments came as Iran grapples with a U.S. trade embargo imposed in June by the Clinton administration, which is engaged in a policy of "dual containment" of Iran and Iraq, which are considered hostile to the United States. The Americans seek to force Iran to abandon its alleged nuclear weapons

programme and stop sponsoring international terror-Mr. Musavian noted that

there are two extremist blocs in Tehran on the issue of relations with the United "States.

"One group acts as though the United States and its administration are illegitimate and believes that under no circumstances can relations he established with such a country," he said in comments also carried by the Islamic Republic News Agency, which is monitored in

At the other end of the spectrum, there is a faction which seeks the immediate restoration of relations, a move that it is convinced will instantly solve all Iran's domestic and foreign problems, Mr. Musavian noted.

"I believe that both groups are mistaken," he said. "Relations with the United States depend on Washington's approach towards Iran.' So far, the Americans have

shown "animosity and hostility" towards the Islamic republic and while that policy prevails it is not in Tehran's interest to renew relations with Washington, he added. "We have never seen any

goodwill from the United States," Mr. Musavian stres-"But if the U.S. changes its

approach and decides to make up for its past animosity and ill will and proves it in practice, then Tehran will be able to reconsider the establishment of ties with Washington."

Algerian journalist shot dead in spiralling militant violence.

ALGIERS (Agencies) — A kidnapped several weeks ago journalist with the daily paper to Malin died Monday of A former leader of the injuries he sustained in a terrorist attack on the outskirts of Algiers, his employer announced

Ameur Ouagueni, 36, was shot Sunday evening in the Scala district at El Biar, the security services had earlier said.

He was head of Le Matin's international section.

His killing brought to 38 the number of journalists assassinated by fundamentalist groups in Algeria since May 1993. The victims include the publisher of Le Matin, Said Mekbel, who was killed in 1994 while having lunch in a restaurant near his

Two additional journalists

Armed Islamic Group (GIA), the most radical of Algeria's extremist factions, had vowed to kill "by the sword" thsoe who fight "by the pen.

In other developments Monday, two local newspapers reported that a top rebel leader was killed by security forces in the Sidi Moussa region on Aug. 13. Achour Touali, 35, former

assistant to Abdelkader Chebouril, head of the Armed Islamic Movement (MIA) was killed with several members of his group in their hide-out, the papers reported.

Touali was part of the first Islamist underground movement organised by Mustapha Bonyali, who was killed in 1987.

Algeria said five suspected Muslim guerrillas were killed near Algiers when a homemade bomb one of them carried accidentally exploded. Algerian security officials

also said guerrillas shot dead that the Jewish state pay for a 23-year-old preacher in an its crimes. Algiers mosque on Sunday and that 47 militants were killed by government forces in 1956 and the June 1967 war over the past week, the offisaw hundreds of men in cial Algerian news agency (APS) reported.

One of the five would-be bombers was blown to pieces and another's head was severed when the bomb exploded in Boufarik, a town 30 kilometres southwest of Algiers, said a statement by security services.

CAIRO (AFP) - Israel's request (from Egypt) to consider these acts as war crimes which do not lapse with time. admissions that its troops massacred hundreds of Arab Israel itself hunted down peoprisoners of war have provoked outrage in Egypt, ple accused of killing Jews in World War Two" the paper where the press is demanding added.

The facts of the massacres Cairo has asked for an offihad never been brought to cial explanation of recent republic knowledge until three ports that the Suez campaign weeks ago when a research worker published details of how Israeli parachutists ex-Egyptian army uniforms gunecuted about 40 Egyptians in ned down after throwing October 1956.

More disclosures followed from the 1967 Arab-Israeli war when nearly 900 Egyptians or Palestinians were shot dead, mostly after surrendering, according to histo-

The government daily A! Akhbar on Sunday urged the international community to act to judge those responsible for these massacres as war criminals.

"Why do the Israelis endlessly condemn and exploit the crimes committed by the Nazis" while prime minister Yitzhak Rabin "lets its soldiers' massacres go un-

Mr. Rabin condemned Wednesday the 1956 massacre but refused to consider punishing the guilty. Egypt's ambassador to

Israel, Mohammad Bassioni, said Sunday that his country would ask the Jewish state for

large damages for the massacres. Mr. Bassioni, who said he discussed the affair with

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on Friday, also suggested that Egypt would try to extradite those responsible or demand that they be tried before the International Court in Justice.

Foreign Minister Amr Musa has remained tightlipped so far about what measures Egypt plans to take, beyond asking Israel in determine responsibility for the massacres.

But the government will soon have to take a firm

(Contin ... on page 7)

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Continued on page -

Question